

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



January 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

★★

Editor's Notes

Attention Club Members:

1997 Membership fees are now due.

Regular membership dues is \$10.00 and Junior membership is \$5.00.

Enclosed is a self addressed envelope for your convenience.

Thank you.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 935th MEETING

The 935th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Andrew Michyeta at 7:00 PM December 11, 1996.

Minutes of the November meeting approved as printed in the Chatter.

President Andrew Michyeta announced the slate of officers for the next two years. They are as follows: President, Mark Wieclaw; First Vice President, Carl Wolf; Second Vice President, Brian Stubbs; and Directors, Robert Feiler, Mike Metras, Andrew Michyeta III and Jeff Rosinia.

Guests for the evening were: Helen Wickman, Gerry Burd, Mrs. Wills, Janet Leonard and Mylinda Michyeta.

Carl Wolf, the Awards Chairman, coordinated the evening's program which consisted of the "Best of 1996 Exhibits". Exhibitors were: Robert Feiler, balloon token, Thaler from the Columbian Expo and Bills to be used in obsolete reproduction; Mark Wieclaw, Ancient Roman coins denarius 211 B.C. 215 B.C. circa which was standard coin of fare at that time; Mike Metras, token Gallery Mint produced at ANA summer seminar, Pikes peak tin dollar, off metal strikes; and Robert Leonard, Anastasia, King Arthur (7,000 pieces to a gold coin) M140, k/20 (4) counter marks one with out marks, worth face, with mark worth ½ less; Robert Weinstein, early Indian coins, Egyptian and Surma.

Immediately following, Carl Wolf announced the 1996 Cabeen Awards and presented each with an engraved medal. Recipients were: Mark Wieclaw - gold, Robert Weinstein - silver, and Robert Feiler, Robert Leonard and Harry Flower with honorable mentions. A Bronze Literary Award was presented to William Burd.

The Club's immediate Past-President, Robert Leonard, presented outgoing President Andrew Michyeta with an engraved silver Past-President's medal. Under the last order of business, President Michyeta, handed over the gavel to in-coming President Mark Wieclaw. Member Steve Zitowsky swore in the new Club Officers.

Meeting adjourned,
Respectfully submitted,

Brian Stubbs, Sec.-Treas.

Letter From The President

To the members of the Chicago Coin Club,

Thank You!

These are the only two words that adequately express my feelings toward each and every member of the Chicago Coin Club. Our Seventy Fifth Anniversary celebration and our "The Science of Numismatics" symposium were successes that exceeded my wildest imagination. They reflected the determination and talent of the membership of "our Club". These two events must make us all wonder, "How far can our Club go?"

My only disappointment is my failure to start a youth outreach program for the Chicago Coin Club. It is my intention to ask the new President to name me "Chair" of a committee to accomplish this task. I really feel this is a way I might repay the Club for the four wonderful years they gave me as President.

Again, I Thank You all.

Yours Very Truly,

Drew

IMPORTANT DATES

- Jan 8 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Herb and Martha Shingoethe on "*Obsolete Bank Notes*"
- Feb 13-16 - Chicago International Paper Money Exposition.
CCC Meeting Feb 15 at Show - Featured Speaker - Ian A. Marshal
- Mar 12 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - To be announced
- April 4-6 - Chicago International Coin Fair
CCC Meeting April 5 at Show - Featured Speaker - William Spengler on "*Cowrie Shells of the World*"
- May 14 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Anthony Swiatek, Topic to be announced.

OUR 936th MEETING

DATE: January 8, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at the security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - Herb and Martha Shingoethe on "*Obsolete Bank Notes*".

NOTICE

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February 1996 Chicago Coin Club meeting will be held at 1PM on Saturday the 15th of February at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel, 6600 N. Mannheim Road.

Our meeting is in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Chicago Paper Money Exposition being held at the same address from Thursday the 13th to Sunday the 16th.

The featured speaker at our meeting will be Ian A. Marshal.



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

Feb 2	Tillie Boosel	
Feb 9	Steven Zitowsky	1991
Feb 25	Walter Pershke	1968
Feb 27	Ron Martino	1991

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



February, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★ WE LEARN BY TEACHING ★★

Editor's Notes

Last month we changed the Chatter cover in color and design. Also we changed the color and type of paper inside. I think it has a better appearance and we will continue to use it. A good friend of mine, who works for a company not to be named (they print the yellow pages), at no expense to the club printed covers for the Chatter for the next 24 months.

This month's meeting will not be at the regular time or location but instead will be held on Saturday February 15th at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel. Details inside.

If you have not paid your club dues for 1997 please do so now. Either bring the money to the next meeting or mail to a check to our secretary. Dues is \$10.00 for regular membership. The address is on last page.

We had a Board Meeting two weeks ago and many interesting topics were brought up. We will print the minutes in next month's Chatter. Also next month we will start a contest - Stay tuned.

Our club will be very involved in the ANA summer convention in Chicago in 1999. Therefore I felt it appropriate to write an article on previous ANA conventions in Chicago. The first installment is included in this issue.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 936th MEETING

The 936th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:00 PM, January 8, 1997, by President, Mark Wieclaw. Guests for the evening were Herb and Martha Schingoethe, our featured speakers, and Dennis Fuller, who collects Civil War memorabilia.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Herb and Martha Schingoethe presented a variety of obsolete bank notes issued from 1800-1863. The club plans to use a copy of one of the notes for next months CPMX giveaway. After their talk, Carl Wolf presented each with the featured speakers medal.

Old business:

The club needs to select a general chairman for the 1999 ANA Convention. There were no suggestions or nominations for General Chairman at this time.

Concerning the upcoming CICF giveaway, a proposal was made and passed that Bob Leonard would write a history of cloth money accompanied by a replica of 19th Century Bohemian red cloth notes using silk screen. A total of 150 pieces are to be made at a cost of \$450.

Correction to last months minutes:

Robert Leonard's exhibit should read:

The Byzantine coins of Anastastius particularly 40 nummia and 20 nummia pieces after the currency reform of 498 CE were doubled in size. The early pieces were then valued at half and therefore the money changers entered countermarks on the coins to prevent confusion as to their value.

New Business:

Jeff Rosinia proposed involving his Boy Scout troop in Club activities.

Carl Wolf proposed a donation by the club to the ANA for \$25 in memory of J. Thomas Nolan, who recently passed away.

Cont'd

Saul Needleman stated he has several other commitments and may not be able to write up the *Show and Tell* and *Speakers Wor[l]d* presentations every month. Carl Wolf volunteered to use a tape recorder to fill the gaps. Carl also announced that next months featured speaker at CPMX would be Ian A Marshal.

Exhibitors for the evening were Bob Feiler, Saul Needleman, Robert Leonard, Reid Geisler, Mark Wieclaw and Chet Poderski.

Meeting Adjourned,

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Feb 13-16 - Chicago International Paper Money Exposition.
CCC Meeting Feb 15 at Show - Featured Speaker -
Ian A. Marshal
- Mar 12 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Mike Metras on
Axum coin and places
- April 4-6 - Chicago International Coin Fair
CCC Meeting April 5 at Show - Featured Speaker -
William Spengler on "*Cowrie Shells of the World*"
- May 14 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Anthony Swiatek,
Topic to be announced

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D
By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

JANUARY MEETING

The theme for the speaker's program for the evening was a presentation by **Herb and Martha Shingoethe** of examples of obsolete paper money from their extensive collections of 30,000 pieces. Both are avid and eclectic collectors (beginning with arrow heads at age 7 for Herb) ranging from coins, obsolete paper from 1800 to 1863, college money, checks and letterheads (as well as countries, 117 visited to date with 4 more planned for this year).

Barter served as the first basis for economic exchange in the American colonies. Later, wampun became a means for payment of economic debts, actually being legalized by the early U. S. Congress. Later, village councils, state banks, private businesses and, sometimes, individuals issued paper notes or checks in the absence of sufficient legal currency to meet the local needs. The slide presentation, for the most part, focused on displaying notes having unusual denominations.

Among the earliest notes shown were a 1775 one penny note of South Carolina and a 3 pence note of Harvard, CT, of Nov. 1, 1814. A Bank of Tennessee of 1814 showed engravings of Pillar dollars of Spain valued as 8 real and 20 shillings. Some of the more unusual denominations were a 12 ½ cent note from Northampton NY, a 12 ½ cent issued by a chimney sweep and a four bitts (50 cent) issued by the Selectman of Rodney. The Farmer's Bank of VA issued 6 ¼ cent notes with an early railroad train engraving. Other notes were of 37 cent, 62 ½ cent (St. Louis), 87 ½ cent (Grenada, MS) and a 33 1/3 cent by the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad with beautiful duck engravings (Natl. Banknote Co.).

Notes of 5, 10, 15 and 50 cent denominations make up about 75% of all obsolete notes. Three cent notes make up about 1%, while 2 and 4 cent notes are very rare. Twelve cent notes are even rarer than 6 ¼ and 12 ½ cent notes. In the higher denominations, 6, 7, 8, and 9 dollar notes make up about 1:1000 of all notes.

Examples of 15, 20, 30, 40, 44 and 80 cent notes were shown, from restaurants, banks and other companies. Some had hunting scene engravings or an engraving of a crude stage coach. Notes from the mid-west tended to have Indian engravings; those from the east, ships.

Larger denominations include some of \$1.25 (1837), \$1 ¼ (1862) \$1.50 and \$1.75 notes. Still others included a \$2.50 with an engraving of an Indian named John Brown, a \$4.00 piece showing the same Indian but issued by a different bank, another \$4.00 for the Bank of Florida showing a railroad train passing over a bridge and an engraving of a sail boat. An 1803 \$8 showed an engraving of children. The list of notes shown by the speakers went up the line with \$11, \$12, \$13, \$25 and \$65 types.

Engravings of the earliest group of notes (1803 to 1815) were crude line drawings and featured railroad scenes, generally an early steam engine pulling one or two railroad cars (stage coaches modified to ride on rails). Pieces issued between the mid-30's and mid-40's became more detailed and wide-ranging in subject matter. The final group, those of the early part of the Civil War, were quite complex, almost photographic in nature.

Subject matters of the engravings ranged from railroad trains reflecting curiosity with this new mode of transportation, sailboats, probably of importance because of the developing canal system, gods and goddesses (e.g., Hermes, Fortuna, cupids, etc.), phenix (or phoenix) rising from the flames, women in everyday activities, portraits of men, (generally local bankers), women (of local fame) and presidents (also Benjamin Franklin). Historic scenes were portrayed including Landing of the Pilgrims, Washington at Valley Forge, Signing the Declaration of Independence, Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation and war scenes. Indians (and Indian princesses) and canoes and wood side scenes were often features on notes issued by mid-western state banks. These notes also showed farm scenes, plowing, milking, harvesting and family picnics. One frequent design was the eagle in various forms.

Not pointed out by the speakers was the fact that the notes tended to fall into discreet clusters of issue dates and that these dates usually were tied to periods of economic distress (The War of 1812, Panic of 1836, The Civil War) and a shortage of circulating small change which accompanied such crises. Further, the reasons for some of the specific 'odd' denominations generally were tied to a specific cost of some commodity or service offered at that time. For example, during the colonial period, paper notes were issued in \$6, \$7, \$8 and \$9 denominations because this was the cost of boarding a horse for a week, a week's salary for a housekeeper, the cost of buying a horse, etc, i.e., the odd denominations were not capricious but served a specific purpose.



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

Mar 7	James R. Budd	1964
Mar 7	Bruno Rzepka	1968
Mar 14	Donald R. Srbeny	1987
Mar 16	Michael Brodsky	1991
Mar 16	Joseph T. Tomasko	1984
Mar 19	Charles Ricard	1963
Mar 20	Sidney Bick	1953
Mar 23	Eileen Peterson	1982
Mar 25	David B. Silberman	1971
Mar 29	Arthur C. Allen	1966
Mar 29	Nancy Wilson	1984
Mar 31	Andrew Michyeta III	1984

OUR 937th MEETING

DATE: February 15, 1997

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: Ramada O'Hare Hotel
6600 N. Mannheim Road

Our meeting is in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Chicago Paper Money Exposition being held at the same address from Thursday the 13th to Sunday the 16th.

Featured Speaker - Ian A. Marshall.

ANA CONVENTIONS AT CHICAGO

by: William A. Burd

*** 1891 ***

Chicago, having hosted several conventions including the 1860 political convention which pushed Lincoln to the presidency and the 1880 Garfield convention, was emerging as a major city worthy of consideration for national events. Having won the right in 1889 to host the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition Chicago by 1891 was busy preparing for the Exposition and was regularly being mentioned in newspapers throughout the country.

It would seem appropriate that the first American Numismatic Association Convention should be held in this prominent city. The reality however is Chicago was selected by a committee of three men and the convention was in actuality a meeting of less than ten people. It consisted of no exhibits, no bourse, no talks and no auction. It would take several decades and much hard work to progress into conventions as we know them today.

To understand how the first convention came about we must go back to the fall of 1888 when Dr. George F. Heath of Monroe, Michigan published a four page pamphlet entitled *The American Numismatist*. It's main article was an essay of collecting while most of the remaining space was used to offer various coin packets for sale. It was numbered Volume 1 Number 1.

The purpose of the *American Numismatist* was stated on page three:

"The Numismatist is published by and in the interest of Dr. Geo. F. Heath. It will be issued bi-monthly and sent free to his coin patrons; to any others it will be sent on receipt of postage ten cents

per annum. It is possible that at some future time, *The Numismatist* will blossom out as a representative of the science of numismatics, but for the present it will be content to follow in an humbler sphere."

Volume 1 Number 2 issued November-December 1888 was changed to *The Numismatist*. According to Q. David Bowers in his book *The American Numismatic Association Centennial History* C. E. Leal of Paterson, New Jersey had issued his own paper entitled *The American Numismatist* in September of 1886. In order to avoid confusion Dr. Heath dropped *American* from his title.

Publication was discontinued with Volume 1 issue 6 dated November-December 1889. In this issue was a farewell message from Heath stating "...the coin collector will not support a journal in their interest...". But just three months later, in March 1890, it appeared again with the same title and as Volume 2, Number 1. This time there was no solicitation for subscribers. Heath simply states it is being sent free to all coin buyers. During 1890 12 issues were published. The issues were becoming more informative and many articles of interest were being published. The December issue stated that the subscription price for 1891 would be fifty cents.

Volume 3, Number 3-4 issued in February 1891 makes the first comment regarding an association. Heath simply states "Whats the matter of having an *American Numismatic Association*? would it be profitable? Would it be practicable? All in favor of such a scheme, send in your names. If a sufficient number are received, we can think of organizing on some inexpensive basis."

A month later in Issue 5-6 Heath states "The *American Numismatic Association*! Are you in it? Then two pages later he elaborates stating in part an Association should be started and fashioned after the *American Philatelic Association*. Two issues later in Number 9-10 dated May Heath again asks "What think you of the *American*

Numismatic Association? We want to hear from more of the brethren in this matter. It is of great importance to you all. Speak right out in 'meetin': Watch out for our symposium on the matter next month."

Issue Number 11-12 dated June included letters from nine collectors stating their interest in an association being started.

Not wasting any time Heath in Issue Number 13-14 dated July issues a proposed slate of officers. The list includes four of the collectors which had written letters the month prior. Heath states "We should start in with at least twenty-five members and a hundred should be forthcoming before 1892." He then continues by elaborating on his ideas of this new organization. Included in his suggestions is the Committee on Organization should be ready to report a Constitution by August and it should be adopted and permanent officers elected to serve from the 1st of October.

The August issue included a card to those persons who showed interest in joining the A.N.A. for the purpose of voting for temporary officers. In the September issue it states all temporary officers were elected almost unanimously.

Also in the September issue the Committee on Temporary Organization called the first Convention to be held in Chicago on October 7, 1891. The following statement was included with this announcement:

"We hope all will attend that can possibly do so, and that the First Convention of the A.N.A. may be a success in every particular. With two-thirds of our membership in the east, and an infant organization besides, there may be some who will doubt the propriety of calling the convention so far from the majority. We however trust that the result will show that the Committee acted with wisdom in this matter. The holding of the Convention in Chicago, should bring in a number of additions to our association, from the windy city and vicinity."

In the October issue members are asked to vote and be represented in person or by proxy at the Convention. In the December issue the newly elected officers were listed with Chicago resident W. G. Jerrems, Jr. as President.

The Convention lasted two days and was held at the Commercial House in Chicago. The main business was to elect permanent officers and adopt a Constitution and By-Laws. According to Heath thirty one members voted either in person or by proxy. In a letter dated October 4, 1891 from Secretary Tatman to Mr. Jerrems a breakdown of 27 proxy votes for president was listed. In a letter written by Treasurer David Harlowe in 1930, recollecting the events of October 7th, he stated that the 1st day of the convention Heath, Jerrems, Heckelman, Brydon and himself were present. Harlowe acted as Secretary pro tem on the first day and was not present on the second day.

The first convention was modest indeed but extremely important in establishing the foundation of the American Numismatic Association.

The next convention to be held in Chicago would be in 1893, ANAs third annual gathering.

to be continued.....

NEWS RELEASE

OBSOLETE CURRENCY IS CLUB SOUVENIR AT CPMX

The Chicago Coin Club will hold its regular monthly meeting on Saturday, February 15, 1997, at 1:00 PM in conjunction with the upcoming 3rd annual Chicago Paper Money Exposition. The meeting will be held in the VIP room at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel, 6600 North Mannheim Road, Rosemont, Illinois. One mile from O'Hare Field. The three day show is scheduled for February 14-15-16.

The featured speaker at the meeting will be well known paper money dealer Ian A. Marshal.

The club will also be giving away a special Chicago paper money premium to everyone who attends the meeting. This second annual issue will be a reproduction card with 6 different notes from THE BANK OF CHICAGO, which existed in the early 1850's. On first glance the four color bank notes will look very authentic. On each sheet however, will be a serial number. The issue is limited to 200 pieces. The card with a \$1, \$2 and \$3 note with red overprint and a back cover with \$1, \$2 and \$3 note without overprint, with a face value of \$12.

Each obsolete sheet is accompanied by its history, written by club member Robert Feiler. This will be the second obsolete sheet of uncut currency from a Chicago Bank issued by the Chicago Coin Club.

The club will also be manning a table at the CPMX to answer questions. Some of the other items for sale will include the book *Perspectives in Numismatics*, as well as a limited number of replicas of odd and curious money from previous years, including California clam shell money, Native American axe head money, bark cloth money and Chinese knife money.

Those not attending the meeting can purchase the Club's Obsolete currency sheet, for \$10 at the show, or \$12 by mail. Past issues of the club issued *odd and curious money* still in stock are available for \$6 per item postpaid. Contact Chicago Coin Club, P. O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690. Be sure to clearly state which issues and how many of each are being ordered.

Submitted by Robert Feiler

SHOW AND TELL CORNER

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

JANUARY MEETING

1. In keeping with the theme of the evening's program, **Bob Feiler**, showed a miniature construction of a shirt, tie and buttons made from four \$1 notes. The purpose of the piece was not stated. In addition he showed a jewelry pin made up of three gold-plated pop-out coins welded together, and a set of ash trays having a reproduction of a 5 franc French coin at the bottom. These apparently were used as 'personal' ash-trays at parties.
2. Also in keeping with the program, **Saul Needleman**, showed a series of paper notes which he presented as attempts by the Treasury to prevent counterfeiting. The first three pieces were colonial notes of South Carolina, New Jersey and Maryland. The first made use of Hebrew letters which supposedly could not be written accurately by other than a clergyman (who wasn't likely to be a counterfeiter). The other two used castings of tobacco leaves which resist counterfeiting because of the complexity of the leaves. Other notes presented as attempts at preventing counterfeiting actually were error notes including an ink streak type, off-set of the obverse design to the reverse, and a \$10 note with the stages 3 and 4 printing omitted on the obverse, but printed on the reverse. Two other notes were examples of the Hawaiian (brown seal) and African (gold seal) notes which could be demonitized if they fell into the hands of Japanese or Germans during WWII.
3. Using a map of Africa of 1853 to illustrate the location of certain countries, **Robert Leonard**, showed five tokens of African interest. These included one from Sierra Leone showing a European clasping hands with an African. The legend WE ARE ALL BRETHREN suggests the purpose of the piece, though it was not actually issued for the abolition of slavery by Great Britain in 1807. Instead, it was issued in 1814 as a trade token by an English company. The second token was from Liberia and shows a freed slave welcoming a ship bringing freed slaves from America. The piece is from 1833 by the

Cont'd

American Colonization Society. The third piece was from St. Helena, a half cent piece by Solomon, Dixon and Taylor (ud) used as a trade token. The final two were from Cape of Good Hope, one of 1861 by White & Co., Tea Merchants and Groceries and the second a 'fairy' token of 1880 PAYABLE AT EAST INDIAN OFFICE.

4. **Reid Geisler** presented a uniface bronze medal portraying Mayor, Richard J. Daley dated after his death. There is no indication on the medal to suggest its purpose.

5. **Mark Wieclaw** presented a series of Roman denarii of Caracalla commemorating his victory over Britain issued during his 14th year of office (issued in 212 though the event occurred in 211). After examining 26 examples of this piece, he found only two pieces in which the elephant forming the reverse design was similar. All others were different from each other. Also, because of the delay in issuing the coin, the dies had to be re-engraved leading to the date, XIII, occasionally being rendered as XVI. He also showed an antoninianus of Severina, wife of Aurelian (270-275 CE) after she became empress for six months. The event seems to be illustrated by the addition of a crescent cut under the bust. The antoninianus was supposed to be two denarii but actually was issued as 1 ½ denarii.

6. **Chet Poderski** concluded the presentations with the 1967 Proof Coronation set of Tonga. The coins were of high-relief and good die workmanship. This set represented the first coins of Tonga, as it became an independent nation in 1967. The holder for the coins actually cost about 3x the value of the coins, according to Chet.

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



March, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★ WE LEARN BY TEACHING ★★

Editor's Notes

The February meeting at the Chicago Paper Money Exposition was a real success. The presentation was very informative and the Club giveaway was both educational and attractive. Thank you Bob Feiler for all your hard work on this year's giveaway.

If we were to complain about anything at the February meeting it would be the size of the room. With the great turnout we had, the room was overcrowded and with the thermostat in overdrive it got a bit warm.

Kevin Foley has promised us a larger room for our CICF meeting in April so we will not have the same problem.

Regan Claire was born on February 8th in Cumming, Georgia. Her proud parents are Heidi (Needleman) and Darin Hibbs. She debuted at 7 lbs 13 ozs and 21 inches in length. She expects to apply for CCC membership in about ten years according to her sponsors Sondra and Saul Needleman.

An error was made in the January "Show and Tell Corner". The last token shown by Bob Leonard was a "Ferry" token not a "Fairy" token -- whoops.

William A. Burd

C. C. C. BOARD MEETING, JANUARY 22, 1997

Attending: Bill Burd, Bob Leonard, Mike Metras, Drew Michyeta, Jeff Rosinia, Mark Wieclaw and Carl Wolf

Topics covered:

1. General Show Chairperson for the 1999 A. N. A. held in Chicago. A list of five names was compiled and Mark will contact each individual in order of Board recommendation.
2. Two items that were brought up by Mark and tabled were a room rental budget, and a Life Membership plan.
3. Bob Feiler sent information about Martha Schingoethe offering to donate a strand of Cowrie Shells for the C. I. C. F. give away.
4. Krause Publications has invited the Club to hold the June meeting in conjunction with the Mid-America Coin Show in Milwaukee. After some discussion it was decided that perhaps a Special Event rather than the regular meeting would be held. Carl will work on possible programs.
5. An update on who has paid membership dues was suggested so that the "Chatter" would be received by only current members. In addition a financial report should be published annually. Form an audit committee.
6. The Constitution and by-laws should be made current and published in pamphlet form.
7. A committee should be formed to look into the awards program, review existing and possible new awards.

Cont'd

8. An alternate meeting site (300 s. Riverside) was given by Jeff in the event that the club could no longer use the bank meeting room.
9. Drew and Jeff are going to work on a youth program.
10. The Videos for the 75th anniversary and C. C. C. Symposium were discussed. When will they be available.
11. Future events such as the 80th anniversary and 900th meeting were mentioned and how to celebrate them.
12. Brian Stubbs submitted that he would like to see a complete list of the Archives printed and make sure that all pertinent items have been placed in the Archives.

Mark Wieclaw

OUR 938th MEETING

DATE: March 12, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at the security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - Mike Metras on *Axum Coins and Places*

SPEAKER'S WORK

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Special speaker at the February meeting of CCC, held in conjunction with the 3rd Chicago International Paper Money Exposition, was **Mr. Ian A. Marshall** of Toronto, Canada, whose presentation was on the subject of *'Replacement Notes of the World'*.

A brief description of the function of replacement notes served as a prologue to the many examples illustrated by slides. In the U. S., the earliest documented use by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) of Star Notes as replacement notes was 1910. While replacement notes might have been used earlier, they were most probably regular issue notes with exact serial numbers special-printed into the proper position. This occurred on some National notes and would be difficult to identify. Since the BEP was responsible for preparation of notes for the Phillipine Islands, Stars replacement notes are known for their Series of 1916.

Examples of replacement notes from perhaps 35 countries were shown in addition to six samples of Allied Military Currency, printed by BEP, used after WWII, and a number of other AMC pieces printed elsewhere. The presentation was perhaps most noteworthy not only for making us aware that replacement notes were not strictly an American phenomenon, but also for demonstrating the diversity of countries that use this technique to account for spoiled notes and for the variety of methods used in achieving this function. It should also be noted how many countries used more than one method for different banknote issues.

A number of countries used the star technique, but not necessarily universally. Australia began use of star notes in 1949 and later switched to special-printed exact serial number notes in red, only on higher denomination notes. Use of stars was abandoned in the 1970-1980's. Vietnamese notes printed by the Tudor Press (U. S.) or by the Security Bank Note Co. (Series 14-A) used stars. Canadian notes used a prefix star for the first time in 1954. Laotian banknotes made use of a star on

Cont'd

much of their paper money, but because of extensive counterfeiting, added security 'blips' somewhere to the face design, on replacement notes as well as genuine notes. Korea was another user of the star concept, while New Zealand used a terminal asterisk, rather than a star to indicate their replacement notes. Columbia began to use replacement notes in 1961 and now uses a star in a circle to indicate these.

Another method for indicating replacement notes involved addition of numbers or letters before or after the serial number. Thus, in 1928, Dutch notes which have serial numbers rarely running as high as 4-5 digits, added a 1 in front of the serial number to indicate replacement notes, i.e., 103555. The Japanese made use of a 9 as a prefix to the serial number, and the Swiss used a two digit number and a letter as the prefix to the serial number. Some Danish issues (ca 1936) added the printing plate letter to the end of the serial number to show replacement.

A third method for designating replacement notes made use of switched letters in the serial number. Thus Viet Nam which numbered notes as A...A, A...B, etc. used G...G for replacement notes. In early series Canadian notes (ca 1913), three letters were used with a number to form the regular serial numbers. On replacement notes, an X was substituted for the last of the three letters, i.e., AAA→ AAX. Cuban and some Philippine issues, printed in the U. S., used a cross in the place of double serial letters, i.e., regular series EB... became +... on replacement notes.

One logical system for indicating replacement notes, used by a number of countries, was to add the letter R to the serial number. As an example, Brazil uses *...R for replacement notes of the R...R series. Chile varied this procedure a little in placing the R somewhere on the face of the note, but not necessarily related to the location of the serial number. In Uruguay (1981), the R was added to the series letter of the regular notes, i.e., series A→ A-R. On some issues of Viet Nam, a B is used instead of the R. The 1972 series of Tunis use a similar but more complex system, A/l... becomes AR/l... on replacement notes. Attendees at the February meeting of CCC received an example of Argentine replacement notes bearing the R as part of the serial number.

Cont'd

In other countries, 1, 2, or 3 Z's are used to replace the regular series letters. ZZZ appears on Lithuanian notes, Peru, Congo (Zaire), Kurdistan and Mozambique use two Z's, and Switzerland uses one Z. Peru uses the bank wrapper to further indicate the presence of replacement notes in bundles of 100 notes. The wrapper is marked to indicate that replacement notes are present in the bundle. Mozambique overprints notes with 'Bank of Mozambique' since becoming independent of Portugal in 1970.

Other letters are used in other countries. Laotian notes printed in the eastern block (communist) countries used the ZA for replacements, Afghanistan uses (arabic) numbers 99 to replace regular series number, e.g., 17. Jordan uses an XX. Malawi replaces regular G/I with W/I. Thai notes have 99Z replace regular 78X series. Laotian notes use N1 to indicate replacements in the S9 series. Finally, on the series of Canadian notes having the serial numbers on the reverse of the note, replacement notes are indicated by a 1 as the second digit of the serial number.

On notes forming the Allied Military Currency series printed by BEP, a large black X was used to indicate a replacement note for us in Austria and France. German AMC printed by Forbes Co. used a dash prefix to the serial number. All Russian issue AMC also used dashes. In Italy, the Forbes series included an F while the BEP series included a star. Three printers produced the Japanese AMC. Notes with a large hollow B in the center were for mainland Japan, H...A replacement serial numbers were made by a private printer and C...C and D...D replacement numbers were provided by a Japanese printer.

Mr. Marshal was presented with a CCC Speaker's Medal at the conclusion of his talk.

End

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar 12 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Mike Metras on
Axum Coins and Places

Those attending this talk will see coins of ancient Ethiopia tied into archeological sites of today. This will be an augmentation of Mr. Metras' talk four years ago, but through video, with observations on this communication media.

April 4-6 - Chicago International Coin Fair
Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, 301 East North
Water Street, downtown Chicago

April 5 - CCC Meeting April 5 at Chicago International Coin Fair
Featured Speaker - William Spengler on "*Cowrie Shells as
Money in Asia & Africa*"

Cowrie shells began their use as money thousands of years ago and continued well into the nineteenth century. They were a primary means of exchange in Asia and Africa, particularly in those countries bordering the Indian Ocean. Mr. Spengler will cover these unique money forms and tell how a value was assigned and how it varied. Cowries were so popular, imitations were also manufactured for thousands of years and Mr. Spengler will show examples of imitations made of gold, silver, bronze, bone, ceramic and seashell.

May 14 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Anthony Swiatek,
Artificial Toning on Coins

Beautifully toned coins in high grade can be highly desirable and often times they command higher prices. But, what you don't know can hurt you, especially if the toning is hiding something. The most common reason artificial toning is added is to disguise surface damage, a lower grade, etc. and therefore the coin's value is falsely increased. Using slides Mr. Swiatek will share his many years of experience and show us the difference between original and artificial.

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

1. The motto "In God We Trust" was added to U. S. currency on which series:
 - A. 1934 F
 - B. 1935 G
 - C. 1950 D
 - D. 1957 A

2. Redemption for Silver Certificates ended on:
 - A. April 12, 1966
 - B. May 10, 1967
 - C. June 24, 1968
 - D. July 4, 1969

3. Small size Federal Reserve Bank Notes were authorized for use on:
 - A. December 20, 1932
 - B. March 9, 1933
 - C. August 15, 1934
 - D. September 25, 1935

4. The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago is denoted by this letter of the alphabet on U. S. currency:
 - A. "B"
 - B. "D"
 - C. "F"
 - D. "G"

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROPOSED RULES FOR SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS TO THE CHICAGO COIN CLUB FOR CONSIDERATION OF A LITERARY AWARD

1. Any member in good standing may submit a manuscript for consideration for the Chicago Coin Club Literary Award (Literary Award). No more than two manuscripts may be submitted in any one calendar year.
2. All submitted manuscripts must have been prepared specifically for contention for the Literary Award. No manuscript, even in a modified form, shall have been previously or simultaneously submitted to another organization for publication or presentation. However, once the award status of the manuscript has been determined by the Awards Committee, the manuscript may be submitted elsewhere for other purposes. It is NOT necessary to wait until the award (if any) is presented before submission elsewhere.
3. Generally, manuscripts will be one of three types: **original** (totally or significantly so) making use of heretofore unpublished information, ideas or interpretations by the author; **review** (entirely or significantly so) on previously published material recast by the author; and **gratuitous**, manuscripts submitted to the Chicago Coin Club for its use BUT not in contention for an award. The latter may be original or review in nature.
4. Each submitted manuscript shall be marked in the upper right hand corner BY THE AUTHOR as to the category of submission. In addition, any subject matter considered by the author to be original shall be marked by an asterisk in the left hand margins to indicate that that material is original.
5. There shall be three levels of award consideration: a silver medal of a design prescribed by the Chicago Coin Club Board of Directors for an Outstanding manuscript in either the Original or Review categories, or a bronze medal of the same design as above for a well-done paper, but of lesser significance than 'outstanding'. In addition, it may be the opinion of the Award Committee that no award be given to a manuscript (the third level above).

Cont'd

6. A submitted manuscript may contain any number of pages more than six, be submitted typed and double-spaced, AND contain at least five references to other related works. Manuscripts may be submitted between January 1 and November 1 of any year for consideration within that calendar year.
 7. The Awards Committee shall consist of the Chairman, appointed by the President of The Chicago Coin Club, on a yearly basis, and at least two other members of CCC, appointed by the Chairman of the Committee.
 8. Normally, manuscripts will be read by the committee within two months of submission. The nature of the award (if any) need not be announced until the December dinner meeting.
-

Any recommendations, suggestions and questions should be directed to President Mark Wieclaw in writing before May 1, 1997.

All correspondence will be considered and a final version will be published by the Literary Committee by June 1, 1997.



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

April 1	Charles J. Ryant, Jr.	
April 12	Mark Wieclaw	
April 15	Robert D. Leonard, Jr.	1983
April 15	Charles Menard	1995
April 27	Don Valenziano	1982

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



April, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

** WE LEARN BY TEACHING **

Editor's Notes

This month's meeting is not at the regular time or location. Instead it will be held on Saturday April 5th at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair.

Speaking of CICF - it is the largest show in the United States devoted to world and ancient collecting interests. Anyone interested in world coins should make an effort to attend. It is open to the public on Friday and Saturday from 10am to 6pm and Sunday from 10am to 2pm.

Last month's Chatter included a Numismatic Quiz on page 8. This will be a monthly feature and is put together by our President, Mark Wieclaw. If you did not get an opportunity to submit your answers at the last meeting (because you received the Chatter late) you can do so at the April meeting along with answers to this month's quiz. These are difficult questions but you can use your reference books to look up the answers.

And in the *I Hope it Happens* department, a large group of Chicago Coin Club memorabilia will be placed in our club auction this November. Stay tuned for a preview of items to be offered.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 937th MEETING

The 937th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Saturday, February 15, 1997 at 1:00 PM at The Chicago Paper Money Exposition held at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel 6600 N. Mannheim Road in Rosemont, Illinois.

There was no official business conducted and no exhibitors since the meeting was held in conjunction with The Chicago Paper Money Exposition.

The featured speaker was Ian Marshall of Canada. He spoke for about one hour on world replacement notes.

At the conclusion of the talk, souvenir sheets of the Bank of Chicago were passed out to the 75 in attendance.

Meeting Adjourned,

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

OUR 939th MEETING

DATE: Saturday, April 5, 1997

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: Chicago International Coin Fair
Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers
301 East North Water Street
downtown Chicago

Featured Speaker - William Spengler on *"Cowrie Shells as Money in Asia & Africa"*

MINUTES OF THE 938th MEETING

The 938th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on March 12, 1997 at 7:00 PM.

The minutes from the previous meeting were delayed and are now in the current issue of the Chatter.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

It was reported that the videos for the C. C. C. Symposium are now complete and can be purchased from Harlan Berk for \$59.50 which includes a set of four video tapes.

It was further reported that Harlan Berk donated a set of tapes to the Club and that club members can purchase the video for \$45.00 within 30 days.

The featured speaker for the evening was Mike Metras who narrated and produced a video on the coins of Axum.

Exhibitors for the evening were as follows: Mike Metras - casino tokens, Bob Leonard - images of Islamic Zodiac, Mark Wieclaw - Roman Denarius of Augustus and Russian coins (bus tokens), Dick DeRobertis - paper money from Czech concentration camp during WWII and Brian Stubbs - paper money from German East Africa.

New members: It was the second reading for Kermit Wasmer and he was approved for membership by the Club. Kermit was also proposed as the general chairman for the 1999 ANA Convention to be hosted by the Chicago Coin Club and was approved for this position by the Club.

Guests at this meeting were Evelyn Zaylik, wife of long time Club member Frank Zaylik, Conrad Fabisch and Mark Ferguson.

Under old business, Carl Wolf reported a source for cowrie shells at 20 cents each. A motion was made and seconded to purchase 100 for \$20.

Cont'd

Bob Feiler was given compliments and a big round of applause for his work on the 1996 and 1997 Chicago Paper Money Exposition souvenir sheets.

Under new business long time member Frank Zaylik took the floor and said he plans to donate to the Club various awards and bulletins that he has accumulated through the years.

Concerning correspondence, the Club received a letter from Mrs. Gloria G. Rovelstad, widow of Trygve A. Rovelstad, who designed and modeled the C. C. C. 50th Anniversary medal. She proposed selling the 12" plaster models - obverse and reverse at \$75 each. A motion was made and seconded for this purchase.

Also approved was a donation of \$50 to the ANA for the 106th Anniversary Convention to be held in New York City July 30 - August 3, 1997. This amount qualifies the Club as a nickel patron supporter.

There was a discussion of a new city ordinance for second hand dealers requiring a photo ID and a 10 day holding period from all buyers.

Frank Zaylik also spoke about the volume of material at the November 1996 auction and the possibility that some people might have been left out. He was assured no one has been left out.

Meeting adjourned,

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 4-6 - Chicago International Coin Fair
Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, 301 East North
Water Street, downtown Chicago
- April 5 - CCC Meeting April 5 at Chicago International Coin Fair
Featured Speaker - William Spengler on "*Cowrie Shells as
Money in Asia & Africa*"

Cowrie shells began their use as money thousands of years ago and continued well into the nineteenth century. They were a primary means of exchange in Asia and Africa, particularly in those countries bordering the Indian Ocean. Mr. Spengler will cover these unique money forms and tell how a value was assigned and how it varied. Cowries were so popular, imitations were also manufactured for thousands of years and Mr. Spengler will show examples of imitations made of gold, silver, bronze, bone, ceramic and seashell.

- May 14 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Anthony Swiatek,
Artificial Toning on Coins

Beautifully toned coins in high grade can be highly desirable and often times they command higher prices. But, what you don't know can hurt you, especially if the toning is hiding something. The most common reason artificial toning is added is to disguise surface damage, a lower grade, etc. and therefore the coin's value is falsely increased. Using slides Mr. Swiatek will share his many years of experience and show us the difference between original and artificial.

- June 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - John D. Wright

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

MARCH MEETING

Mike Metras presented the Coins of Axum to the Chicago Coin Club four years ago. He has since re-cast his presentation in the form of a video based on his own experiences in that area when in the U.S. Army. The present program is based on his presentation of that video before the Club. The video is titled "Axum Coins and Places".

The program begins with native music of the area depicting 'what is and what might have been' as we begin a journey through Ethiopia and Eritrea on the way to what was once the kingdom of Axum. Axum was situated in the highlands of Ethiopia and Eritrea during the 9th-10th centuries CE, but earlier, extended from the Nile river on the west into Yemen, southern Arabia and along the Red Sea trade routes on the east as early as the 4th-5th centuries. CE.

The first of the coins shown in the video were several of king Hazana. One piece, of about 330 CE shows a portrait of the king with a crescent and star above as a sign of the religion of the times. Later coins of Hazana showed a cross, often inlaid with gold, on the reverse, after the area was converted to Christianity. Some of the later coins of Ezana and his successor, Kaleb, carry the legend in Gez, the ancient Ethiopian language, 'May this be pleasing to the country'.

As the journey proceeds, one comes to the port town of Abalis where a large throne is seen on which are written in Greek, the exploits of an unnamed Axumite king to his own country and parts of Sabea. This inscription was copied by a Greek merchant about 525 CE, during the reign of Kaleb. The desert gives way to mountains which rise from the plain to about 7000 feet. This is now Axumite territory and coins of Kaleb with a gold inlaid cross would have been used. Typical homes of the time were shown together with the method of plowing used then as now. In the town of Metara are seen homes much in the style of the ones that existed there in earlier times. The town was founded about the 1st-2nd century BCE and existed until about 8th-9th century CE. What remains of the town today is that part which was protected by rubble over the centuries. An archeological team has dug up much of the area and reconstructed parts as they think it once was.

A number of monuments and steles were unearthed on which is writing in early Ethiopian characters in which the consonants and vowels are combined in the same symbols. The syllabary of the later coins does not contain vowels. Market towns still look as they did in early times. While traveling along the plateau, one comes to an Ethiopian monastery dating to the 6th century CE, said to have been founded by king Kaleb's son. The only way to enter the last 100 feet of the monastery is with a rope thrown down from above. Only males are permitted to enter the monastery. In ancient times, one would have seen many dams are seen which once caught the sporadic seasonal rains. A Sabeian temple of the 6th-4th century BCE, the Temple of Belunca - the moon god - is shown which was modified in later times to included a cross in the floor plan. Other early temples, built to honor earlier gods, were destroyed and Christian churches built over the sites. Some coins of Ezana have the cross on the reverse but still carry the crescent and star as the symbol of the country.

Near the entrance to Axum, fields of monuments (tombstones) have been found. These may already have been ancient in the time of Ezana. No tombs exist under them. Some of the stele have the crescent and star at the top and many resemble multistoried buildings. A German archeological team has found what might be the ruins of the Palace of the Queen of Sheba. It has been reconstructed as the team thinks it used to be. There is extensive evidence of building, destroying and over building at the same sites. A platform exists along one edge of Axum which appears to be a line of thrones, as seating for the king and court nobles. The statue of a lioness is seen along side a mountain trail. The same type of graceful lioness is pictured on a coin of Somalia of 1951. Axumite cities generally were built in valleys. Teconda is another city of Axum built in the valley. All that remains of this city are a few monuments and rocks. Later cities were moved to the top of mountains so that one could see invading armies more quickly. Some coins illustrated in the video were of king Armah (?). These contain the legend 'Joy and Peace to the People' and is of the 6th-8th century CE. There is no good agreement as to the actual dating for many of the kings of Axum.

One section of the video is devoted to the churches of Axum. Some were (re)built with Portuguese influence in the 16th century. One small Axum church, 'The Treasury', claims to be the storage site for The Ark of the Covenant, brought there by Menelik, son of Solomon and Sheba.

Another group of coins were illustrated; these of were of Joel of the 9th century.. It has been suggested that one way to classify the order of coins of Axum is by the shape of the crosses used as the reverse designs. The last group of coins included those of Ectaza, which include some with the legend 'Mercy to the People' and a diamond-shaped cross. The video concluded with more native music. Enlarged photographs of the coins illustrated in the video were available for study after the presentation, as were stamps showing the ancient Axumite coins.



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

May 2	Donn Pearlman	1979
May 3	Roy R. Grundy	1981
May 7	Mark Whaley	
May 10	Martin Vink	
May 11	William A. Burd	1993
May 11	Jeffrey Rosinia	1995
May 15	Jay M. Galst, MD	1991
May 17	Paul R. Hybert	1994
May 17	Shirley Valenziano	1984
May 23	Robert J. Weinstein	1991
May 25	John G. Ross	

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

1. Roman Emperor Caracalla introduced the double denarius around 215 AD. What was it called?
 - A. Antoninianus
 - B. Dupondius
 - C. Sestertius
 - D. Siliqua
2. The first coin to bear the portrait of a LIVING person was minted in the 4th century BC. Who's portrait was it?
 - A. Philip I
 - B. Alexander "The Great"
 - C. Ptolemy I
 - D. Cleopatra VII
3. Several Greek and Byzantine coins were minted from a natural alloy of two minerals called "electrum". What were the two minerals?
 - A. Silver & Copper
 - B. Silver & Gold
 - C. Gold & Copper
 - D. Gold & Zinc
4. How many drachms are there in the Greek "DODEKADRACHM" denomination?
 - A. 10
 - B. 12
 - C. 16
 - D. 20

SHOW AND TELL CORNER

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

MARCH MEETING

Mike Metras - Following an ANA Seminar four years ago, Mike visited Cripple Creek, CO, now site of a number of gambling casinos. He obtained 14 different dollar value tokens and showed these. Five pieces had the mint mark NCM (Nevada Coin Mint) and were had reeded edges. None of the other pieces were reeded, or of similar quality. Four pieces had the mint mark CL, One had GB (GDC - Green Duck Company), one had a monogram as the mm and two had no mm. A few pieces carried burn marks from the house fire that Mike experienced several years ago.

Robert Leonard - In preparing a manuscript for the International Numismatic Congress in Europe this fall, Bob obtained information on an exhibit of Images of the Islamic Zodiac at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. While the exhibit was very small, the catalog contained considerable information, including the description of a dish from the 12th-13th century showing the sun, the moon and planets in the Islamic zodiac. Coins of the Seljuk Turkemans show some of the same images on their coins. One piece showed a sun face with rays representing the sun together with a lion, for Leo.. Another, of 1215, showed a face described as representing the sun, though without rays. The reverse showed the moon sign, represented by a figure holding a crescent. Another, the Mosel mint in Iraq, of 1228 had a similar design. Mars, the god of war is pictured as a male figure holding a severed head. Some constellations also are shown on Turkeman coins, but no others with examples of the planets are known.

Mark Wieclaw - A brockage silver denarius of Augustus (27 BCE-14CE) was shown. The reverse carries an incuse stamping of the obverse of another piece made when a coin became stuck in the die during minting. The piece is not rare but is desirable. Mark has a dupontius brockage piece of Augustus which is much rarer than the silver types. He continued with two tokens of Peter the Great of Russia. When Peter visited London in 1690, he was taken by the lack of beards on the males. When he returned to Russia, he banned beards, but under pressure, permitted beards to be worn if the wearer paid a beard tax.

Cont'd

The tax was collected in the form of beard tokens. Several issues are known. One of 1698 had 50,000 pieces made but only one copy is known today. The law of 1705 require a new issue of tokens. The tax was collected according to economic means, varying between 30-100 rubles. Nevertheless, the peasant had a fixed rate of one kopek. Large square pieces were issued in 1724-1725. On all the originals, a countermark of an eagle is seen. This suggests that the same token might have been used over several years and these were just countermarked as the new years tax was paid. Novodels, official government counterfeits made in the 1800s, are twice as thick, and of better quality, occasionally of silver (originals are of copper), and very expensive. Originals are between \$400-700 and novodels \$300-500.

Dick DeRobertis - A series of paper tokens issued by the Nazis for use by Jews in some concentration camps (Theresienstadt ?) were shown. These ranged from 1 to 100 kronen and showed a representation of Moses, the Ten Commandments and a star of David. They are not listed in Pick's catalog of paper money supposedly because they were not legal tender. Dick claims that these notes actually were used as money for certain functions in the camps, and, therefore, ought to be listed. The notes vary in size and color according to the denomination, but all have the same motifs.

Brian Stubbs - A series of German East African notes of Feb., 1916 were shown. These are called 'Bush notes'. All have serial numbers with no letters and stamped signatures. Two different border designs are known. They are printed on stiff colored paper. The \$1 notes all come with a purple 'cancellation' mark across the reverse.

End

ANA CONVENTIONS AT CHICAGO

(continued from the February 1997 Chatter)

By: William A. Burd

1893

The third annual American Numismatic Association Convention was held in Chicago in August 1893. Chicago was the only logical choice because of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition.

The convention was held on August 21st at Douglas Pavilion on the corner of 36th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue. Thirteen members were present. New officers were elected, reports by various committees were given and various numismatic papers were read.

The U. S. Mint had an exhibit at the Columbian Exposition which was only a few miles from the Convention. Surely most of the attendees visited this exhibit and viewed the two 1804 dollars and the 1849 \$20.00 Liberty, as well as many other rare coins on display.

Several serious Chicago area numismatists had yet to associate themselves with this young organization. One was thirty-one year old Virgil Brand who already had a large accumulation of coins and was buying from several prominent dealers including S. C. Stevens, Steigerwalt, and the Chapman brothers. However, he had not yet joined the ANA. Another was Ben Green, a serious collector from an early age, who had moved to Chicago in 1890 at the age of thirty, but had not yet started his coin dealership.

Cont'd.

The next convention to be held in Chicago was 18 years later when in 1911 it was held at the Art Institute from August 28th through the 31st . The five year old Chicago Numismatic Society was the host club. The minutes of the 87th meeting of the CNS on April 7, 1911 show the members hard at work to insure a good convention.

The Art Institute had already given permission for their club room to be used for the convention and for the exhibits to be set up at the Institute. Ben Green was asked to conduct an auction at the convention.

At the May meeting the committee on hotels chose the Hotel La-Salle as headquarters for the convention. At the June meeting it was decided to hold an informal auction at the August meeting with proceeds to go to the convention fund. The auction netted \$37.97.

The Convention was a success with 50 members in attendance, 20 of which were from the Chicago area. There were 14 exhibits covering all areas of United States coinage, fractional currency, encased postage, Greek and Roman coinage and one exhibit of Asian coinage including Chinese knife money. Many rarities were present including Dunham's 1804 dollar and 1822 half-eagle, Grandberg's 1894-S dime, and Brenner's 1884 and 1885 proof trade dollars. An auction was conducted by Ben Green consisting of 596 lots. This was his second "ANA" auction having held his first in Columbus, Ohio in 1907.

Judson P. Brenner of Dekalb, Illinois, a new member to the ANA, but for years an active member of the Chicago Numismatic Society, with the backing of the Chicago vote, was nominated for president and later elected.

An official photograph of those attending the Convention was published in the September 1911 Numismatist.

Cont'd.

1920

The annual ANA Convention for 1920 was held in Chicago at the Art Institute from August 23rd to 26th. The host club was the Chicago Coin Club which was less than two years old having held it's first meeting on February 14, 1919.

As with previous conventions, business meetings were held, officers for the following year were nominated and exhibits were on hand for viewing.

William Dunham's 1804 dollar and 1822 half-eagle were again on exhibit along with numerous other coins from his collection. Many prominent Chicago collectors and dealers had exhibits at this convention including Fred Michael, J. Henri Ripstra, Alden S. Boyer and T. E. Leon.

Perhaps the most interesting exhibit was by Mr. Samuel W. Brown of North Tonawanda, NY who exhibited one 1913 nickel with a label proclaiming it's value to be \$600.00.*

An official photograph of 66 attendees of the Convention was taken on the lawn of the Art Institute. It can be viewed in the October 1920 Numismatist.

To be continued....

*At the December 1919 meeting of the Chicago Coin Club Mr. Brown was elected to membership. His exhibit that evening was a 1913 nickel.

In Walter Breen's 1988 book *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* and in other numismatic writings it is stated that Brown exhibited all 5 nickels at the 1920 convention. However in the October 1920 Numismatist it is clearly stated one 1913 was displayed and Brown offered to buy others at \$600.00 each.. In fact, as late as March 1920 he ran an ad in the *Numismatist* offering to buy one at \$600.00.

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



May, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★ WE LEARN BY TEACHING ★★

Editor's Notes

Last month's meeting at the CICF Show was well attended with many guests from all parts of the U.S.. We had an ideal meeting room, a good speaker and a great giveaway. These guests have no choice but to return home and make positive comments about our club.

Many members play a part in assuring these meetings are a success and they all should be thanked. However special thanks must go out to our First Vice President Carl Wolf who puts the whole show together. Mr. Robert Leonard is to be commended for his excellent paper on woven cloth money. I thought this was his best work to date on our primitive money series.

If you want to look at and hold a million dollar coin consider going to the PNG/PCGS Super Show at the Chicago Conrad Hilton and Towers on May 9th and 10th. A 1913 liberty nickel, one of only 5 known, will be on display during the show. Also, they are conducting five educational seminars on Saturday as well as one-on-one discussions with several coin experts.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 939th MEETING

The 939th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Saturday, April 5, 1997 at 1:00 PM in the Superior Room of the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers. This meeting was held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair. Special guests at this meeting were Bob Leuver, CEO and executive director of the American Numismatic Association and Cliff Mishler, President of Krause Publications.

Normal business was motioned off and Carl Wolf introduced our featured speaker, Mr. William Spengler, who spoke for an hour to the 88 members and guests on '*Cowry Shells as Money in Asia and Africa*'. At the conclusion of the talk, Mr. Spengler was presented with the featured speaker medal.

Carl Wolf again took the floor and awarded the 1996 Medal of Merit of the Chicago Coin Club to past President Andrew Michyeta citing in particular his financing of the dies used to make the 75th Anniversary plaque of the Chicago Coin Club in 1994 as well as his behind the scenes work for last year with the ANS Symposium at the Chicago International Coin Fair. Drew was given a big round of applause for all his past efforts.

All attendees were then presented with the 1997 CICF souvenir card on Woven Cloth Money.

Meeting Adjourned,

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 14 - CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Anthony Swiatek,
Artificial Toning on Coins

Beautifully toned coins in high grade can be highly desirable and often times they command higher prices. But, what you don't know can hurt you, especially if the toning is hiding something. The most common reason artificial toning is added is to disguise surface damage, a lower grade, etc. and therefore the coin's value is falsely increased. Using slides Mr. Swiatek will share his many years of experience and show us the difference between original and artificial.

June 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - John D. Wright,
Collecting U. S. Large Cents

Large cents were minted from 1793-1857 and were among the first coins struck under the authority of the United States Government. As a foremost expert in this field, Mr. Wright will tell the history of large cent collecting, cover how the series is broken down into three groups, show fascinating pieces and varieties within each group and discuss some of the methods of collecting these unique pieces of American history.

June 19-21 Second Annual Greater Chicago Coin Exposition
at Navy Pier downtown Chicago.

Over 100 major dealers from around the country will be at this show. Open to the public Thursday, June 19th and Friday, June 20th from 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday, June 21st from 10 am to 5 pm.

July 9 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Michael S. Gasvoda,
Mount Vesuvius Atonement Series of Roman Coinage

Mount Vesuvius erupted August 24, 79 A. D. and buried the cities of Pompeii, Stabiae and Herculaneum. Convinced this was a result of their gods' anger, Romans instituted a number of programs to appease them. This included a series of eleven coins struck under Emperors Titus (79-81 A. D.) and Domitian (81-96 A. D.). Mr. Gasvoda will show the coins symbolism and significance of each.

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

by Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

APRIL MEETING

The use of the lowly sea creature, *Mesogastropodus cyprae*, the cowry, as money was the topic of William Spengler, special guest speaker at the CCC meeting held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair. The earliest additions to his collection were gathered on the streets of Mala, capital city of the Maldiv Islands, where the streets were paved with cowry shells in packed sand. He has since expanded his collection to include examples of all the types of cowrys used as money, as well as many others of the 180 known species of cowrys. The name of the species derives from the Hindi (Indian) word 'kauri'

The money cowry (*Cyprae moneta*) is of drab color, with a greenish hump and irregular edges. The shells are polished before use to improve their appearance. The humps are often removed to facilitate stringing of large numbers of shells. The shell is harvested from the sea and is treated to remove the snail-like animal. Shells from the Maldiv Islands have been found in China and in Africa and in remote places far from the source. Among the reasons for their popularity was that they are readily recognizable, quantities are easily divisible and they are stable, of a standard size and shape. Their relationship to coinage, however, varied between countries and even within countries over the years. They may even have varied according to what was purchased with them. A second source of cowrys is East Africa, near Zanzibar. Shells from this area have a smooth edge with a narrow gold band around the hump (*C. annulus*). They have a naturally polished surface. A third type, *C. onyx*, is about 1 1/2 times larger, has a dark hump (and is considered to be more beautiful than the others) and comes from the western Pacific. This region did not enjoy a money economy (as opposed to barter). As a result, this type of shell is not as common as the other two. Large 3-4" cowrys were not used as money.

Cont'd

The earliest evidence for the use of cowry shells in trade is anecdotal, but the earliest evidence points to their use by the Cro-Magnon man 15,000 years ago, based on finds in French caves. Shells also have been found in Russia, Cuba, Egypt and Jordan. Some, from burial sites in China date to the 12th-3rd centuries BCE (Zhou dynasty). They were provided to the dead to be used as payment for debts incurred in the after life. Similar finds were made in India and in Pakistan dating to the 2nd-5th centuries CE. Cowrys have been found in the Hudson's Bay area of North America where they were used to pay the Native Americans for furs. They were also known to the Menominee and Ojibwa Indians. They did not catch on in this continent, perhaps because of competition with the more prevalent and locally produced wampum. The first reference to the actual use of cowrys for trade is attributed to Alexander the great In 326-321 BCE. The first reference as to the source of the shells is by Suleman, a trader, who reported production of cowry shells as a royal monopoly in the Maldives about 800 CE. Other traders include Ibn Ben Tuta (1328 CE) who found one gold dinar to be equivalent to 120,000 shells, Marco Polo, who described the use of cowrys by Khubla Khan, and others who reported that cowrys were paid as tribute by the Shah of the Maldives to the Rajah of Kanarvoor, and that the Bengalese exchanged shells for rice.

At one time, 4000 English L were equivalent to 160,000 pounds of shell. China once claimed sovereignty over the Maldive Islands and over Cyprus which accounts for the frequent findings of cowrys in old burial sites in China. It was pointed out that the cowry shell bears a striking resemblance to Siamese bullet money.

Coming of the Europeans to the area of the Maldive Islands changed the trade system in the area. A Venetian map of 1497 showed the Maldives as the source of cowry shells. Vasco da Gama opened the islands to direct sea trade with Europe (1498). The British, French and Portuguese vied for control over SW Asia with the Portuguese being the first to establish reasonable control by 1503. This gave way, partially to the Dutch, the French and, finally, with the start of the Opium Wars, to the British, through India and China.

Cont'd

It was decided by certain countries to use cowrys in West Africa in association with the slave trade. At its inception, 2 1/2 English shillings were equivalent to 1 quintal or 100 pounds of shell. A slave could be purchased for 1/2 quintal or 1 kotta. Within a short time, the cowry became too valuable to use as money because of the slave trade. At one time, there were as many as 500,000,000 cowry shells in circulation in West Africa. Cowrys were exchanged for ivory and gold, and a bride could be obtained for two shells. Later the bride price jumped to 60,000 shells. Abolition of slave trade reduced the use of the cowry. The use of tea as payment for opium and other commodities further reduced the need for cowrys. Further reduction in use of the money cowry came with the competitive introduction of *Cyprae annulus* from East Africa to West Africa. Nevertheless, as late as 1942, cowrys were still in use in Bengal, even for payment of taxes.

In response to occasional shortages of cowry shells in India, China and other parts of Asia, imitation shells were introduced. These were made of bone, low grade jade, fine green jade, yellow jade, crystal, terra cotta, wood and metals, including bronze, silver and gold. Some were very small; others were as much as 2 1/2 inches in length. Examples are known which are more than 3000 years old. Most are imitations of the *C. moneta* type, having the crenulations around the edge. All have striation marks on the 'bottom' resembling the lines which normally appear on cowrys. Some are made without humps to facilitate stringing. Since many of the imitation shells have far greater value than the intrinsic value of the cowry, it is doubtful whether these were produced with the intent to displace the real shell. Real and imitation shells have been incorporated into head piece decorations, necklaces, baskets and wall hangings.

Bill Spengler was given an appropriately engraved CCC Speaker's Medal after his presentation.

Cont'd

HAROLD KLEIN 1913-1997

Harold Klein, 83, passed away February 12, 1997, in Clearwater, Florida which has been his home since 1969.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Mr. Klein was employed by the First National Bank of Hinsdale from 1933-1968, retiring as executive vice-president.

Mr. Klein was member number 306 of the Chicago Coin Club and was the recipient of the 1963 Medal of Merit. He was life member 75 of the American Numismatic Association and served as their second vice-president 1947-49, treasurer 1949-62 and received their Medal of Merit in 1954. Mr. Klein was a collector of paper money, full sheet currency and U. S. large cents.

A son, Robert, two daughters, Deborah Bjorseth and Patricia Goolik, and five grandchildren survive him.

MISS LEAH KLEIN 1906-1997

Leah Klein passed away April 5, 1997 at the Admiral Retirement Home on Foster Avenue. She was 92 years of age.

Miss Klein lived most of her life on Chicago's south side. She graduated valedictorian of Phillips High School and received a scholarship to the University of Chicago, which she declined and began working at the Chicago Public Library to support her family. Miss Klein worked at the library for 52 years, where she oversaw the Binding Department where she monitored the condition of books and arranged for those worn out to be refurbished. She retired in 1973. She was a member of several cultural organizations including the Art Institute of Chicago, the Field Museum of Natural History and the Geographical Society of Chicago.

Miss Klein, member number 855, joined the Chicago Coin Club in the 1970s and collected general U. S. material. She faithfully served as Secretary/Treasurer 1974-79 and was the recipient of the 1975 Medal of Merit. She will long be remembered for her love of detail and formal manners.

A nephew survives Miss Klein. Services were held at Weinstein Memorial on April 9th and burial was at the Oak Forest Cemetery.



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

June 11	Joseph A. Piekarczyk	1991
June 12	Rosalind Ryant	1977
June 27	James Simek	1973

OUR 940th MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, May 14, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - Anthony Swiatek on '*Artificial Toning on Coins*'

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

1. She designed two of our modern gold commemoratives.
 - A. Elizabeth Hurley
 - B. Elizabeth Shue
 - C. Elizabeth Jones
 - D. Elizabeth Taylor
2. Trygve Rovelstad designed which of these half dollar commemoratives:
 - A. Grant Memorial
 - B. Elgin, IL Centennial
 - C. Illinois Centennial
 - D. Iowa Centennial
3. This was the first commemorative struck at the Denver Mint:
 - A. Arkansas Centennial
 - B. Oregon Trail
 - C. Daniel Boone Bicentennial
 - D. Carver-Washington
4. Which of these dollar commemoratives was NOT struck in gold?
 - A. Grant Memorial
 - B. McKinley Memorial
 - C. Lewis and Clark Exposition
 - D. Lafayette

I will accept answers for the March and April quiz also. After the May meeting, only the current quiz answer will be accepted.

AXUM COINS AND PLACES

by Mike Metras

Editor's Note: At the March 12, 1997 CCC meeting, Mike Metras gave a presentation entitled "*Axum Coins and Places*". At the time of the presentation it was recorded for later review and inclusion in the April *Chatter* in Mr. Needleman's excellent monthly feature "Speakers Wor[l]d". Unfortunately the recording was of poor quality and interpretation of several key points were misleading. Therefore, Mr. Metras has submitted an extensive review of what we saw on video and it is published here in it's entirety.

Axum and Its Coins was a show that used slides of modern Ethiopia to show some of the things that the viewer, as a Greek merchant, might have seen traveling from the port of Adulus to Axum in ancient times. Along the way you saw the coins used in daily commerce. The video opened with Ethiopian music and an Axumite coin of King Ezana made sometime before 330 AD. It included the crescent and star, the symbols of the religion of the time.

Axum is the name of a kingdom that ruled the northern highlands of Ethiopia and Eritrea between the third and ninth or tenth century AD. In addition to the Ethiopian territories, Axum ruled all of the southern Red Sea trade routes and the Arabian side in what is now Yemen between the fourth and mid-sixth century.

First you saw a view of the mountains leading into the port of Adulus. Next you heard that at the edge of Adulus at a dry river bed you could have read an inscription on a ceremonial marble throne which told of the exploits of an unnamed Axumite king to many parts of his own country and to "country of the Sabeans". This inscription was copied by a Greek merchant, Cosmos Indcopleustes, during the time of King Kaleb around 525.

Next you saw a coin of the time of King Kaleb around 525. It has a cross and a gold inlay-the first(?) bi-metallic coin? The Greek inscription "TOU TO ARECH THE XOPA" (no spaces) says, "May this be pleasing to the country."

Cont'd

Camel caravans, houses, and plowing oxen may have looked very much like modern ones shown. The great rocky outcropping of Mt. Marata near a town of that name would have been your guide for a long time before arrived at this point. Its still there.

Matara was probably a living city from first or second century B. C. to the eighth or ninth century A. D. It is now a rolling field with building foundations dug up by recent archaeologists. What remains of the buildings is what was protected by their rubble when they were destroyed.

A stele, a stone monument, was found at the base of a cliff in Matara. The stele has an inscription written in the earliest known version of the Ethiopian syllabary, their alphabet that combines consonants and vowels in single characters. Unlike later letters which have vowels, the ones on this stele and those on the coins have no vowels.

Next you saw a coin used in Axum just after King Ezana declared Christianity the official religion in 330 AD. The earlier crescent and star has been replaced by a Greek cross. The obverse head is surrounded by the simple word "BACI/^EYC" "King." The reverse has the same Greek "TOU TO ARECH THE XOPA" "May this be pleasing to the country" like the one of two centuries later on the coin of Kaleb seen earlier.

Continuing on to Axum, a "Grand Canyon" of eroded mountains opens up to the west. Axum is on the other side. One flat top mountain in the middle of these mountains is Debra Domo, an Ethiopian monastery that has been around since the sixth century. Ethiopian tradition says King Kaleb's son Gebra Maskel founded this Monophysite monastery in the mid-sixth century. You climb the last 100 feet to the monastery by rope-if you are a male. They do not throw the rope down for women.

As you passed through the town Yeha, you would have seen a great temple to the moon god Alumqa. The Sabeans built this temple in fourth to sixth century BC. When Ethiopia became Christian, the Ethiopians defaced and destroyed almost every other temple to the ancient deposed gods and often built Christian churches over them. But they just took some stones from the wall of this building so a cross was visible and made a Christian sanctuary inside.

Cont'd

You then saw a coin of Ezana of pre-Christian times. It says "EZANAC," "Ezana," on the obverse. The reverse says "BACI^EYC," "King" in Greek. The crescent and star on the coin are the symbols of Aluma, the Moon God, the one whose temple you just saw.

At the entrance of Axum, a stele proclaims King Ezana's deeds, telling you, the Greek, whom you are about to deal with. If you didn't understand Greek, it is also written in Ge'ez and Sabean. It tells how Ezana conquered and destroyed the kingdom of Meroe on the Nile. At that time King Ezana of Axum controlled everything from the Nile River in the west to well into South Arabia in the east along with most of the commerce on the southern Red Sea.

Once in the town, you are drawn to the stelae fields. What were they? Someone there probably could have told you, though they might have been ancient even then. Maybe they were tomb stones, though no tombs have been found under them. Some of the stelae are ornate and others quite plain. The crescent and star were originally on the top of many. Some mimic multi-storied buildings similar to those still seen in Yemen (Sabean descendent on the East shore of the Red Sea).

Next you saw a wall at a place called the "Palace of the Queen of Sheba." Really, it is only one of several buildings dug up on the edge of Axum at what was probably an upper-class residential area of the fifth or sixth century AD, fully 1500 years after the Queen of Sheba.

A very curious line of platforms stand in one part of Axum. They are called "thrones" where kings and or nobles were said to have sat during special occasions.

Along a current road and completely built over by the current town, you would have encountered a great building, probably the king's palace. All you saw in the video was a pillar and doorway base. An archeological expedition from Germany at the turn of the century dug around this palace in several places, sat down at the drawing board, and come up a drawing of what they thought it might have been. Whatever it really looked like, I'm sure you would have been impressed with it's size and beauty.

Cont'd

South of ancient Axum a lioness stands flowing on the side of a great boulder. The lioness is from very early Sabeian times, long before Axum came on the scene as something more than a colony of South Arabia. A similar graceful lioness glares off the 1950 one Solomo coin of Somalia.

Axum, as most Axumite cities, was built in the valley. Tekonda, another Axumite city built in the valley, is little more than a few columns and a lot of rock. The modern village of Tekonda, which gave the ancient site its name, stands on top of a hill. Since Axum cities and villages have moved to the hill tops where they can see their enemies from a longer distance.

You then saw a plow in the middle of ancient Tekonda. What was a city became a pile of rock and now feeds man in an entirely unintended manner. A coin of Armah came out of a field like that one. You saw a full seated king and the inscription "Ngs Armh," "King Armah," now in Ge'ez the ancient Ethiopian language. The reverse reads "joy and peace to the people" around a wreath and a gold inlaid cross. You would have used this coin some time between the 6th and 8th century, depending on whose modern list you use. Different serious scholars have different guesses at Axumite dates.

Next you saw several churches of Axum including one built with Portuguese influence and another said to hold the Arc of the Covenant.

Finally we saw some coins of the other kings. First, one of Iyel whom you would have visited in the 6th or 7th century. His name is around the cross "IYEL" in Ge'ez. One obscure little Ethiopian book uses the shape of the crosses as a way to identify the coins to a particular king. It works well. Great plates and a bit of transliteration from Amharic gives us an accurate lead into one of the more traditional lists.

The next coin was of Wazena who ruled in the sixth or seventh century. The king holds a barley stalk and is surrounded by the words in Ge'ez "he who is fitting for his people." The stretched out cross on the reverse splits the Ge'ez inscription "zwznzngs," "King Wazena's [coin]." This inscription is like other ancient coins; it uses the possessive case saying literally "of Wazena, of the king."

Cont'd

Finally you saw an odd-shaped, broken little coin belonging to Hataza, probably that last Axumite king with coins. Vaccaro puts him in the ninth century, others in the eighth. The facing king simply says, "king Hataza". The reverse says, "Mercy to the people" around a diamond shaped cross.

The video ended with titles and credits and the same Ethiopian music that started the video.

The End

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



June, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★ WE LEARN BY TEACHING ★★

Editor's Notes

Our Club, under the leadership of Carl Wolf, is holding a special educational event in Milwaukee on Saturday June 28th. See details under "Important Dates" elsewhere in this issue. If you are going to the Milwaukee Show don't miss this talk.

Dr. Saul Needleman's articles, "Speaker's Wor[l]d" and "Show and Tell" are not in this month's issue but promise to be ready by next month.

1997 membership cards were either given to members at the last meeting or placed in this issue of the Chatter. If you did not receive a card you may still owe 1997 dues. If so please make payment to the Secretary.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 940th MEETING

The 940th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, May 14th at 7pm on the 18th floor of the First National Bank Building. Special guests this evening were Anthony Swiatek and John Connolly. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and the treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The featured speaker was Anthony Swiatek, who spoke on toning on Commemorative Coins. Mr. Swiatek received the featured speaker medal at the conclusion of his entertaining talk.

Exhibitors for the evening were Andrew E. Michyeta - Medallion 1 oz. bars issued by the First National Bank of Chicago. Dick DeRobertis - Photo of a 1913 Liberty Head Nickel and Costa Rican bank notes. Mike Metras - set of 5 coins of Princely State of Mewar, India and various other Indian coins. Robert Feiler - 1842 French 5 Franc coin knife with scissors, 1827 French 5 Franc money clip, 1887 British ½ Crown, and 1888 Peru one sol. Mark Wieclaw - 3 coins of Caracalla from Cappadocia, 1 coin of Caracalla from Pautalia, and a 1 oz. 999 silver bar. Robert Leonard - \$1.00 aluminum token of J. I. Hubell, a Navajo trader in Ganado, Arizona. Phil Carrigan - 1909 Chicago Coin Society Medal. Saul Needleman - 1 Roman counterfeiting mold, 1 Achbati jackel, 1 Palestine arrowhead, 1 tile from Bath, England, and 1 U. S. dollar bill with web printing.

Carl Wolf announced that John D. Wright will speak on Collecting U. S. Large Cents at the June meeting and Michael S. Gasvoda from Indiana will speak on Roman Coinage at the July meeting.

The club will hold a special event in conjunction with the Milwaukee Coin Show at the Mecca Center the last weekend in June on June 28th. Four club members, Bob Leonard, Bob Weinstein, Brian Stubbs and Drew Michyeta will comprise a panel who will exhibit and talk on primitive money from their various collections.

Cont'd

Anthony Swiatek, our guest and featured speaker, gave away 6 door prizes to the following 6 lucky members - Steve Rodin, Drew Michyeta, Carl Wolf, Don Srbeny, Richard Hamilton and John Connolly. The door prizes were the book Commemorative Coinage of the United States by Mr, Swiatek and an ANA Centennial Coin issued by the Isle of Man.

The following people had their second reading and became members: John Connolly, Nancy Walsh, Dennis Fuller, Akio Lis, Dave Nelsen, Conrad Farisch and Venson Brown. Also, there was a first reading for Anthony Swiatek.

Under old business Mike Metras volunteered to pick up the plaster molds of the 50th Anniversary CCC Medal from Mrs. Gloria G. Rovelstad, widow of the designer. Also Bob Feiler announced that 41 people received the 1997 CPMX press release since they were previous buyers of last year's souvenir sheet.

For new business, Carl Wolf made a motion which was accepted that the club send a complimentary copy of the 1997 CPMX souvenir sheet to the First Chicago VP who allows the club to use the room for club meetings.

Other new business, the Literary Award Committee reported receiving one manuscript for review.

Meeting Adjourned,

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

Frank P. Zaylik - 1929-1997

Frank Zaylik passed away May 28, 1997 from complications due to liver cancer. Evelyn, his wife of thirty years, a son, Francis of DeKalb, Illinois, a daughter, Catherine of Chicago, two brothers and one sister survive him. His parents, two brothers and one sister precede him in death.

Born October 12, 1929 to Polish immigrant parents, Frank was raised in the Chicago area and served in the U. S. Army 1951-53 in Germany and Austria. After his discharge he resumed work with Nabisco Company where he remained for forty years. During the past few years, he worked as a security guard and he also served as a janitor with the Orland Park schools. Frank was a Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus and he served on the committee that raised money through his local church for the needy.

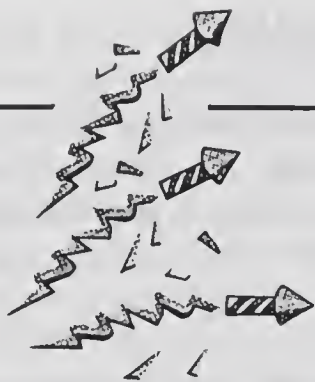
He became member #639 when he joined the Chicago Coin Club in the 1950's and was a collector of U. S. coins and Polish medals. His collection of medals and memorabilia from the Chicago Coin Club and its predecessor clubs made up the featured portion of the club auction in November of last year. For many years he served as the club's Parliamentarian and Sergeant at Arms and maintained the attendance book. He also served as a Director, the club's Archivist and on a number of committees that hosted coin shows during the 60's. In 1976 the club bestowed upon him the Medal of Merit.

He was a life member of the American Numismatic Association and attended many annual conventions. He maintained membership in the Polish American Numismatic Association, the Central States Numismatic Society, the Homewood Coin Club and the Calumet Numismatic Club. Frank also collected stamps and was a member of the Park Forest Stamp Club.

Those who knew Frank will remember his shy demeanor and his belief that everyone's feelings should be taken into consideration.

Funeral services were held May 30th at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Mokena, Illinois and burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery in Evergreen Park, Illinois.

Submitted by Carl F. Wolf



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

July 4	Chester Poderski	
July 13	Gerard Anaszewicz	1981
July 19	Terry L. Capps	1996
July 19	Richard S. Hamilton	1986
July 27	David Simpson	1980

OUR 941st MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, June 11, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - John D. Wright on
'Collecting U. S. Large Cents'

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

1. In what year were the first large cents struck for circulation?
 - A. 1791
 - B. 1792
 - C. 1793
 - D. 1794
2. When a large cent reference number is listed beginning with the letter "N" it refers to this author...
 - A. Newton
 - B. Newsome
 - C. Newell
 - D. Newcomb
3. The "Booby Head" large cent variety is listed under this classification...
 - A. Classic Head
 - B. Matron Head
 - C. Young Head
 - D. Royal Head
4. Both large and small type U. S. cents were struck for circulation in this year...
 - A. 1857
 - B. 1856
 - C. 1855
 - D. 1858

I will accept answers for the March and April quiz also. After the May meeting, only the current quiz answer will be accepted.

IMPORTANT DATES

June 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - John D. Wright,
Collecting U. S. Large Cents

Large cents were minted from 1793-1857 and were among the first coins struck under the authority of the United States Government. As a foremost expert in this field, Mr. Wright will tell the history of large cent collecting, cover how the series is broken down into three groups, show fascinating pieces and varieties within each group and discuss some of the methods of collecting these unique pieces of American history.

June 19-21 Second Annual Greater Chicago Coin Exposition
at Navy Pier downtown Chicago.

Over 100 major dealers from around the country will be at this show. Open to the public Thursday, June 19th and Friday, June 20th from 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday, June 21st from 10 am to 5 pm.

June 28 Special Educational Event held at the Mid America Coin Expo at 1 pm, at the Wisconsin Center, 4th & Kilbourn Streets, Milwaukee, WI. Featured Speakers - Brian Stubbs, Drew Michyeta, Robert Weinstein, Robert Leonard and Dr. Saul Needleman, *Primitive Moneys of the World*.

Many numismatists are unaware that some societies created money and symbols of wealth without any preconceived notion of coinage or paper currency. Join the members of the Chicago Coin Club and hear a panel of numismatists who will exhibit specimens of the primitive money from their collections. Those who attend will learn how many of the pieces originated, descriptions of when and where they were used and the social significance these mediums of exchange may have served to their community. Literature will also be covered for those who would like to learn more about this fascinating anthropological branch of numismatics.

Cont'd

July 9

CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Michael S. Gasvoda,
Mount Vesuvius Atonement Series of Roman Coinage

Mount Vesuvius erupted August 24, 79 A. D. and buried the cities of Pompeii, Stabiae and Herculaneum. Convinced this was a result of their gods' anger, Romans instituted a number of programs to appease them. This included a series of eleven coins struck under Emperors Titus (79-81 A. D.) and Domitian (81-96 A. D.). Mr. Gasvoda will show the coins symbolism and significance of each.

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



July, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

** WE LEARN BY TEACHING **

Editor's Notes

The Navy Pier Show came and went. Over 100 dealers from all parts of the country were present however attendance was low. Many out of state dealers left Friday but there was plenty of dealers still there Saturday with plenty of material for sale. The average collector just doesn't seem to venture downtown even when quality material and nationally renowned dealers are available I will be very surprised if this show returns next year.

The Milwaukee show the following week was well attended. There were many talks including the CCC event on primitive money. Because of the many conflicting schedules attendance was low. Those that did attend said it was an excellent program.

The next major show in the area will be the Central States Numismatic Society fall coin show in Harvey September 5th thru the 7th. This show will include exhibits, seminars and an auction and will be well worth attending. Our club will have a table at this show and if you can volunteer some time please speak to Carl Wolf.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 941st MEETING

The 941st meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, June 11th at 7pm on the 18th floor of the First National Bank Building. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Our guests were John and Mabel Wright from St. Joseph, Michigan. Mr. Wright was the featured speaker who spoke on U. S. Large Cents.

A second reading for Anthony Swiatek from Manhasset, N. Y. was given and Mr. Swiatek is now a member.

A motion was made and seconded that that the plaster casts of the 50th Anniversary medal of the Chicago Coin Club be placed in the club auction this November. A sympathy card for the Frank Zaylik family circulated among club members as well as a get well card for Saul Needleman. Mark Wieclaw announced that the March quiz winner was Marty Vinik who won a 1997 silver American Eagle.

Under new business Carl Wolf made a motion later approved that the club Secretary cast the club ballot for club members who are running for ANA office on the national level. New club member Anthony Swiatek is running for President and club member John Wilson is running for Governor.

Noted U. S. Large Cent specialist John Wright then spoke to the club on U. S. Large Cents, featuring the famous four of large cents, the starred reverse, Jefferson head, large cent small fraction, and 1807 over 6. At the conclusion of this highly interesting talk, Mr. Wright was given the featured speaker medal.

Exhibitors for the evening were:

Dick DeRobertis - Wisconsin casino gambling tokens from Harrah's.

Mike Metras - Russian space medal, 3 ½ inch Kennedy medal, Polish Numismatic Association medals, 1827 Anthony Canova medal, Italian Russian cooperation medal, Rhodesian railway medal, Albanian medal, Computer Associates medal, and 150 anniversary Illinois statehood medal.

Cont'd

Drew Michyeta - 15 gram stamped medallic key chain.

Bob Feiler - 1896 Morgan Silver Dollar ¼ inch thick converted into a cigarette lighter.

Bob Leonard - plates from Dickinson Numismatic Manual.

Bill Burd - uncut sheets of currency silver certificates from the collection of former club member Harold Klein.

Mark Wieclaw - Roman silver denarius off-center, Roman bronze piece.

Dennis Fuller - Confederate Sulter Civil War token.

Mention was made of the special event on June 28th at the Milwaukee Coin Show as a reminder.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

IMPORTANT DATES

July 9 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Michael S. Gasvoda** on
Mount Vesuvius Atonement Series of Roman Coinage

Mount Vesuvius erupted August 24, 79 A. D. and buried the cities of Pompeii, Stabiae and Herculaneum. Convinced this was a result of their gods' anger, Romans instituted a number of programs to appease them. This included a series of eleven coins struck under Emperors Titus (79-81 A. D.) and Domitian (81-96 A. D.). Mr. Gasvoda will show the coins symbolism and significance of each.

Aug 13 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Bruce W. Smith** on
Knife and Spade Coins of Ancient China

Best guesstimates put the beginnings of Chinese knife and spade coins as early as 900 BC, making them the earliest money manufactured by man. Chinese authors have written about these unique numismatic antiquities for over 1000 years, but gained little notice from western collectors until the late 1800's. Bruce Smith has been a serious student of this subject for 30 years, has traveled to China several times and lived there for a year. Join him as he shows examples from his collection and shares with members the inscriptions on these coins and how they fit into a system of weights and denominations.

Sept 10 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - To Be Announced

Oct 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Leon A. Saryan** on
Medieval Coins of Cilician Armenia, 1080-1375 AD

For most of the 13th century, Cilician Armenia was a primary trade center of the Middle East. During this period the Armenians played an important role in the Crusades. Dr. Saryan has studied and collected the coinage of this period for over twenty years, has traveled to Armenia four times and used historical manuscripts of the era to research his findings. Join him as he shows the copper, silver and gold coins from this medieval culture and explains their historical background and significance in relation to the times.

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

JUNE MEETING

Large cents of the United States mint was the subject of the presentation by John Wright before the Chicago Coin Club June meeting. John grew up in southern Florida but for the past many years has lived in Benton Harbor, Michigan, where he works as a computer programmer for Whirlpool Corp. John was a contributor of a chapter to Perspectives in Numismatics. He has authored a number of major papers and books on early U. S. Cents and won the silver Heath Award in 1969 and the Literary Guild Award in 1962. He has collected large U. S. cents for over 40 years.

John began his presentation with a survey of U. S. cents from 1792 to the 1850's. These early colonial and U. S. cents are at least as large as the early British half cents.

The four most famous of these includes the starred 1794 reverse which has five pointed stars. All other U. S. coins showing stars have six pointed stars. Two to three dozen are known and they sold for \$15,000 in the 1970's. One variety of 1803 has a small date. The more usual has the large date and a small fraction(1/100). Finally, there is the 1807 Coronet type which comes 1.) with a large date and 2.) with a small date and no serif on the one.

The U. S. government has specified the basic design for federal coinage since 1787. The first U. S. large cent was based on a design suggested by B. Franklin - the Fugio cent. The coin shows thirteen circles, each bearing the name of one of the original American colonies, linked and surrounding the slogan 'Mind your business'. The other side of the coin shows the sun over a sun dial on which is 'Fugio' translated as 'I fly', suggesting that time flies and the necessity for keeping busy. This was a one year type and several tons of coins were produced from part of a shipment of copper by the government to one James Jarvis who then used the remainder to produce Connecticut and New Jersey cents privately before skipping this country.

Cont'd

Over the next five years, the government decided the country needed a coinage, but one made in a federal mint, not privately. A complex of existing building was purchased in Philadelphia and a mint was set up. A series of patterns was produced in 1792. These included a Liberty bust piece with a silver plug worth $\frac{3}{4}$ cent in the center. Only a couple of dozen examples are known today and these run about \$30,000 each. Another pattern was the Birch cent which had a similar bust, but was as large as the British penny. The first actual coin struck under authority of the government for general use may or may not have been struck at the mint was the so-called 'chain' cent. It had a Fugio-like reverse but with 15 links. The slogan 'We are one', and the unbroken chain was to represent strength in unity, but since it also embodied acceptance of slave states, it was not popular and was struck only between March 1 and March 12, 1793. Only 36,000 pieces were struck and they are worth in excess of \$1,000 each. The example shown had strong clash marks.

This design was replaced by the wreath type of which about 65,000 were produced over the rest of the year in a number of variations based on wreath sprig and hair curl locations. These were replaced by the 'Cap' cent, struck for one week (11,000 made), the mint then closing down because of the Yellow Fever epidemic. The 1794 cent has over 60 varieties, some of which show higher relief than the 1793 types. A circle of denticles replaces the circle of dots of the 1793 types.

In 1796, for the first time, the mint struck coins of all the ten denominations authorized by the government. The cent changed midyear from the cap to the standard 'Bust' type which continued until 1807. Examples of 1796, 97 and 98, the so-called Style One, shows hair which is plain and fine. The Style Two hair which followed is more coarse.

Some of the pieces which appeared between 1808 and 1814 are especially beautiful but the color is generally off. These run about \$4,000-\$5,000. A mint hiatus produced no cents dated 1815, though the 1816 examples were produced in November and December of 1815, dated 1816. These were designed by Scott and are considered to be particularly ugly showing a rather portly head. The 1817 issue contains one interesting variety, it has 15 stars rather than the usual 13. It is a common type and occurs only in one die. For some reason, this type occurs rather commonly in brockage. There are minor variations with a blunt 1 and a chip behind the ear, etc.

Cont'd

By the 1830's and 40's the design of the large cent had become rather stereotypic.

A second part of the presentation dealt with fakes of some of the large cents which nevertheless bring high prices.

Four types are known of the strawberry leaf variety of the Jefferson head type of 1795. All are rare and are contemporary fakes - they are not government issues. These were struck by James Harper.

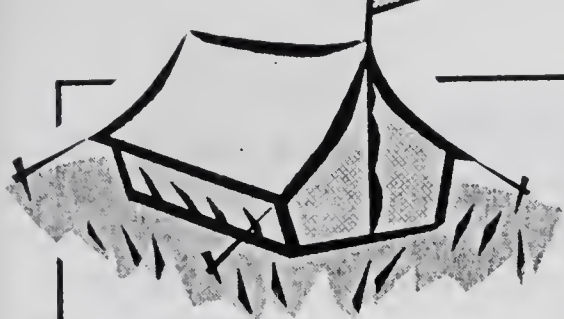
In the 1850's, the mint began selling old dies to private parties. A dealer bought the dies for the 1803 cent (common) and had it recut with an 1804 (expensive) date. All expenses were easily recouped from the sale of the fake 1804's.

The 1823 is the most expensive cent of the late series. The dies were cracked from their original use, but these were never canceled. Fakes without cracks and a number of spurious issues with cracks have appeared over the years. Another fake is the 1848 small date variety.

The final portion of the presentation was showing actual coins of the early period of large cents.

Note: My apologies to John Wright for any errors made in reporting his presentation to the club. When I am not at the meeting, I depend on a tape recording of the presentation for the information presented and it isn't the same as hearing the real thing and seeing the actual pieces being discussed.





BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

Aug 1	Reid J. Geisler	1995
Aug 2	William Swoger	1984
Aug 11	Clifford Mishler	1995
Aug 15	Steven R. Rodin	1991
Aug 19	Carl F. Wolf	1979
Aug 20	Melvyn Frear	1989
Aug 23	Thomas Michell	1981
Aug 26	Tom Delorey	1984
Aug 26	Donald H. Doswell	1960
Aug 31	Clarence R. Wills	

OUR 942nd MEETING

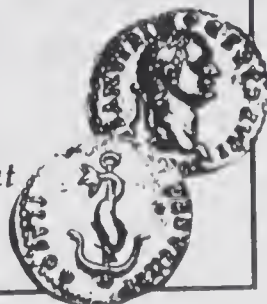
DATE: Wednesday, July 9, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - **Michael S. Gasvoda** on *Mount Vesuvius Atonement Series of Roman Coinage*



SHOW AND TELL CORNER

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

JUNE MEETING

Note: The presentations this month show the very eclectic collecting tastes of CCC members. Not all presenters were tape recorded and the sign up slips were not available to me. Hence, some write ups are less detailed than others.

Dick DeRobertis introduced a rather new area in collecting - 0.999 fine silver gambling tokens. The group he showed were from a variety of places in Nevada (Carson City, Lake Tahoe, Reno, etc.) and from Green Bay and other places in northern Wisconsin. They are obtained by putting three quarters into the machine. If the proper number of marks appeared on the lines, a token was given as a prize. The weights of most of the tokens was just over one ounce. Each Club produced tokens with different distinctive designs. Dick was trying to put together a set of Indian chief pieces and was told that the club no longer had those types. A call to the manufacturer resulted in the information that the minimum order which could be made was 3,000 of each type.

Mike Metras showed a series of medals from the collection of things he does not collect. This collection consists of things that were picked up over the years but do not form part of a concerted collection. The medals included a Soyuz medal from Russia, the 3'k Kennedy medal obtainable from the U. S. mint (Mike got his in an auction), a piece dated 1966 celebrating 1,000 years of Christianity in Poland issued by the Polish Numismatic Society. The design includes a number of coining implements. Another medal commemorates some event between Poland and Australia but Mike could not explain the connection. Another piece dated 1827 was issued for Anthony Canova who might have been a sculptor. A 1988 medal was issued for Italian-Russian cooperation. Another piece was issued to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the first train to Rhodesia. A silver bullion type medal was from Albania and showed a couple of fighters (soldiers). One piece was a trade show medal issued by the company Mike works for. The last piece was a CCC 150th Anniversary piece, shown not so much for the medal as for the holder in which it came.

Cont'd

Drew Michyeta showed the newest addition to his collection of animals on medals. He showed a 0.999 silver piece which he thought pictured an eagle. On further examination he realized that the gloved hand suggested that bird was a falcon, not an eagle, adding a new animal to his collection.

Bob Leonard brought an 1865 third edition of Montreauxville Dickeson's American Numismatic Manual. The book has a number of plates showing various examples of private gold coins - large types as well as the small pieces. In addition, there are discussions of Indian money and wampun and the Grove Creek Inscription associated with the book of Mormon. This has three lines of text within an oval and may be written in an ancient form of Libyan or some other old semetic language.

Bill Burd displayed four uncut sheets of United States Currency. A sheet of 18 \$1 Silver Certificates, series 1935E, only 53 sheets are known to exist. A sheet of 18 \$2 Red Seal United States Notes, series 1953, only 26 sheets known. A sheet of 18 \$5 Silver Certificates, series 1953, only 21 known and a sheet of \$10 Silver certificates, series 1953, only 10 sheets known. All four are autographed by both Ivy Baker Priest, Treasurer of the United States and George M. Humphrey, Secretary of the Treasury. These sheets are part of the collection of Harold R. Klein, a former CCC member and ANA Treasurer from 1949 to 1963.



CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



August, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

** WE LEARN BY TEACHING **

Editor's Notes

I just returned from the American Numismatic Association annual convention in New York and am happy to report it was a very good trip. I did not have a table at this show and I did not attend the banquet. However I did meet with many collectors, dealers and ANA personnel. I learned about the roll the Internet is playing in our industry and how it is benefiting the collectors as well as the dealers. I viewed coins I would otherwise never get to see such as two 1804 dollars, 1913 nickel and two brasher doubloons. I also saw some fine exhibits as well as thousands of coins, currency, medals, etc. for sale at affordable and fair prices. I returned to Chicago with some fresh ideas as a dealer but more so as a collector and a researcher. I have added several new projects to my "*Want to do*" list.

We are the host club for the ANA Convention in Chicago in 1999. From what I saw in New York I would say we have a formidable task ahead of us and will need many volunteers to make it a success. I have no doubt we will have the largest event in ANA history and the best attended show. Get ready to work!

The Central States Numismatic Society fall coin show will be in Harvey September 5th through the 7th. This show will include exhibits, seminars and an auction and will be well worth attending. Our club will have a table at this show and if you can volunteer some time please speak to Carl Wolf.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 942nd MEETING

The 942nd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, July 9th at 7pm. Guest for the evening was Curtis L. Clay, a specialist in coinage of the Ancient Roman Empire. The minutes for the June meeting will be approved at the August meeting. The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Carl Wolf introduced our featured speaker, Mike Gasvoda, a member who spoke on *The Pulvinar Reverses of the Denarii of Titus & Domitian Atonement, Triumph or Mystery?* After Mike's interesting talk, he was presented with the featured speaker medal.

Exhibitors for the evening were:

Mike M. - 25 shilling coin of Tanzania

Richard H. - Stock certificates and magnets of stock certificates

Jeff R. - Series of toned Morgan dollars, half dollars and cents

Mark W. - Elongated half dollar 25 year reunion Peotone High School, Eisenhower dollar commemorating 45 years Krause Publications, Peace dollar with ad slogan and a Roman copper bronze piece.

Under old business, Marty Vinik was presented with a silver eagle for winning the March quiz published in the Chatter. Mike Metras was the winner of the June quiz also receiving a silver eagle.

For new business, Chet Poderski brought up a security issue of publishing the complete names of exhibitors in the Chatter. After some discussion, the motion was tabled.

New member - It was the first reading for Curtis L. Clay.

There was discussion on mailing in applications for club membership without attending a meeting in person. The club policy of attending at least one meeting during the first two readings was upheld.

Marty Vinik won the Anthony Swiatek door prize commemorative coin.

Cont'd

Also the Elgin Coin Club and its newsletter was recognized by the ANA as having the best local club newsletter. Our member Mike Metras is the Editor.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

OUR 943rd MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, August 13, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - **Bruce W. Smith** on *Knife and Spade Coins of Ancient China*

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 13 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Bruce W. Smith** on
Knife and Spade Coins of Ancient China

Best guesstimates put the beginnings of Chinese knife and spade coins as early as 900 BC, making them the earliest money manufactured by man. Chinese authors have written about these unique numismatic antiquities for over 1000 years, but gained little notice from western collectors until the late 1800's. Bruce Smith has been a serious student of this subject for 30 years, has traveled to China several times and lived there for a year. Join him as he shows examples from his collection and shares with members the inscriptions on these coins and how they fit into a system of weights and denominations.

Sept 5-7 Central States Numismatic Society Fall Convention

Convention will be hosted by ILNA and will be held at the Ramada Inn-17040 South Halsted Street(I-80 and Rte 1) in Harvey, IL. It will be open to the public from 10am to 6pm, Friday and Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. There will be seminars and exhibits as well as a large dealer bourse and an auction.

Sept 10 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - To Be Announced

Oct 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Leon A. Saryan** on
Medieval Coins of Cilician Armenia, 1080-1375 AD

For most of the 13th century, Cilician Armenia was a primary trade center of the Middle East. During this period the Armenians played an important role in the Crusades. Dr. Saryan has studied and collected the coinage of this period for over twenty years, has traveled to Armenia four times and used historical manuscripts of the era to research his findings. Join him as he shows the copper, silver and gold coins from this medieval culture and explains their historical background and significance in relation to the times.

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

JULY MEETING

The speaker at the July meeting of CCC was Mike Gasvoda who presented his views on the meaning of the pulvinar reverse of the denarii of Titus and Domitian.

Titus served as emperor only for two years and three months and was followed to the throne by his brother, Domitian, who served for more than ten years. During Titus' reign, two significant events occurred: one was the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, and the other was the second great fire of Rome. It was during this period that eight denarii reverses, plus variations for a total of eleven, appeared which encompass a unique coin type not found elsewhere in the Roman series. Seven of these appear on coins of Titus and all eight types appear on coins of Domitian. These show a pulvina, a lectus or type of bed, and a pulvinar, a type of pillow on the bed. The design probably is of Greek origin. In addition, on the pillow rests a symbolic representation of a Roman god.

Vesuvius is a volcanic mountain that exists near the city of Naples, not far from Pompei and Herculaneum. Using Dio, Livy and the two Plinys as references, a description was given of the actual eruption of Vesuvius. There were movements of people from inside the houses to outside, and from the outside to the inside. Those at sea came to land, and those on the land went to sea in attempts to escape the devastation of the volcanic eruption. They all felt the earth was being turned upside down. A number of the illustrations in Dio were based on casts made from hollows left by bodies buried in the ash which covered the area. Pliny compared the darkness of the eruption with being in a closed room with the lights turned out. The eruption began during the daylight of August 23, 79 CE and continued through the night into the 24th. The ash burial presents a unique opportunity to see what a city of 79 CE looked like. In addition, 2000 pieces of graffiti have been recovered and are not different from those seen on building walls today in Chicago.

Cont'd

Portraits on the coins of Titus appear with the bust right and left, but all are dated during the first six months of Titus' COS VIII which began January 1 80 CE, six months after the eruption. One of the earliest pieces shows the winged thunderbolt which is taken to represent Jupiter. It was suggested that an act of atonement to appease the gods took place after the eruption of Vesuvius. Roman coin reverses generally identify positive events in the lives of emperor or of Rome, and for this act of atonement to be commemorated on coins, Titus' actions in undertaking the atonement must have been viewed by the Roman public in a very positive sense. While no other coins seem to be associated with an atonement, Livy does describe earlier such atonement's during which part of coaches (lectuses) were laid out throughout the city with symbols of the gods on the beds. The present pulvinar group of coins then seems to form a unique series unlike any other group of Roman coins. Mike feels this group must be part of such an atonement and that it relates specifically to the eruption because the second fire of Rome occurred after the pulvinar series appeared.

Descriptions of some of the coins, as described in the RIC, are unusual in their details and don't give a clear reference to the Roman god depicted on the coin. Nevertheless, they seem to be part of the pulvinar series. For some coins, reference seems to be to more than one god, or there are differing opinions as to which god is depicted.

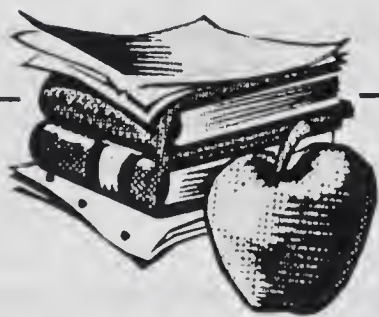
The coins of the series issued under Domitian begin with those marked for his COS VII under Titus (80 CE). The obverses contain the IMP date from the time of accession to the throne (late in the 81 CE), the legend PONT and later PM (very late in 81 CE) and conclude with Domitian's COS VIII legend of 82 CE. Thus, the issues attributed to this series for Domitian, dated from the obverse and reverse legends, cover a span of only just over two years but from the large part of the roman silver series. The issues also exist in gold but the extent of issue is difficult to determine.

Mike suggests that the issues clearly define some event or great achievement worthy of recognition both by Titus and by Domitian. Again suggests that the devastation resulting from the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius must be such an event. When challenged at the conclusion of

Cont'd

his presentation by one of the members who suggested the first games of the Coleseum as a more likely and positive event for commemoration by these coins, Mike explained that he did not find any reference on the coins to the Coleseum and reminded everyone that the coins were not in commemoration of the eruption of Vesuvius but of the lectisternium which followed.

End



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

Sept 1	Fred White	1991
Sept 2	John Wilson	1984
Sept 7	James M. McMenamin	1975
Sept 16	Richard J. Sheppard	1977
Sept 18	Michael M. Dolnick	1952
Sept 24	Michael A. Pesh	1979
Sept 25	Saul Needleman	1992
Sept 27	Edward Stevens	1996
Sept 29	Thomas Kulasik	1996

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

1. The motto "In God We Trust" appeared first on which of these denominations?
 - A. One cent
 - B. Two cent
 - C. Five cent
 - D. Ten cent

2. The New Orleans mint mark appears on the obverse of this 1851 denomination...
 - A. Two cent
 - B. Three cent silver
 - C. Three cent nickel
 - D. Twenty cent

3. The SBA dollar and this denomination seated liberty coin were unpopular with the public for the same reason.
 - A. Twenty-five cent
 - B. Twenty cent
 - C. Ten cent
 - D. Fifty cent

4. The three cent and three dollar denominations were issued for what reason?
 - A. To make change for merchants
 - B. To purchase U. S. postage stamps
 - C. To pay U. S. soldiers
 - D. For payroll at large companies

SHOW AND TELL CORNER

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

JULY MEETING

Mike M. led off the Show and Tell part of the meeting with a 25 shilling coin in silver proof from Tanzania. The coin legends are in Swahili, a language Mike learned years ago during his army career. The piece shows the portrait of the first president on the obverse and a scene from the Savannah on the reverse. Tanzania was formed in 1964 from a merger of Tanganyika (first a German colony, later a British colony) and Zanzibar. Tanzania is not as tribal dominated as many other newer countries in Africa and, hence, is more stable than most of them. However, the shilling which used to be worth about 12 cents (U. S.) is now at about 200-300/dollar.

Dick H. showed a number of stock certificates and bonds acquired at the Memphis paper money show. One was a certificate from the Pabst Brewing Co. for 300 shares, with beautiful vignette. The certificate had been owned by Gustav Pabst and had his signature on the reverse. Also on the reverse was written a complete history of dividends paid over the years. A second piece was a bond from the Belgian Congo. The third was another bond of the Pan-American World Airways with another beautiful vignette. This and the first piece were printed by the American Banknote Company. The final piece was a certificate from the Studebaker Corporation with a vignette showing John Studebaker, blacksmith.

In addition to the certificates, Dick showed a group of refrigerator magnets showing railroad bonds. Dick actually owns several of the bonds shown on the magnets.

Mark W. showed an elongated half dollar he had made for his wife's 25th Peotone High School class of 1972 reunion. These were prepared on 1972 halves by Ray Dillard of Michigan. Some pieces also were made on 1954 halves and on 1997 halves which came from proof sets because the commercial 1997 halves are not yet available. Since the coin selected for elongation was the half dollar, the die was larger than that used for the more customary cents. A few pieces were struck for committee members on nickels, dimes and quarters showing how the larger design fits on a smaller coin.

Cont'd

A second part of Mark's exhibit was an Eisenhower dollar available at the Milwaukee show for 45 cents. These pieces carried an advertising sticker on the reverse commemorating the 45th anniversary of Krause Publications. Chet Krause collects coins with advertising stickers.

The final piece shown was a copper sestertius of Septimus Severus issued in 197 CE on which an elephant forms the reverse design. This piece supplements Mark's collection of Caracalla pieces with elephant reverses.

End



CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601
or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



September, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★ WE LEARN BY TEACHING ★★

Editor's Notes

Our featured talk this month is on the Internet and how it effects our hobby. Communication is a vital part of our favorite pursuit. Over four hundred years ago books began to appear on the subject of coinage and it's relation to history. Eventually societies were formed to advance the study of numismatics. In the United States by the mid 1800s auctions were starting to include coins and not long after auctions offering coins exclusively were being held. Auction catalogs with prices realized were offered for sale and were the only source for coin values. Around this same time publications were issued in various parts of the country informing the collectors of the news of the day as well as a means to publish studies done by various collectors relating to their specialty. Many of these publications listed their subscribers names, addresses and collecting interests in order that collectors could communicate with each other. By the late 1800s much had been done to promote the hobby and to disseminate information to collectors. Surely to many it seemed enough.

It is now 100 years later and in addition to the traditional societies, clubs, publications and books, we have third party grading, telephone auctions, computer links with dealers throughout the country and weekly price sheets. These components were not needed by many of us and were surely not used by all of us but they do in some way effect us as a whole and must be recognized as a part of our hobby.

And now we have a new communications tool - the Internet. Although it may seem to be unnecessary to some it is here to stay and will surely be a big part of our hobby in the years to come so I suggest you dive in and do some surfing.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 943rd MEETING

The 943rd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, August 13th at 7pm. Guest for the evening were James M. Rondinella and Richard R. Rondinelli from Downers Grove, Lisa and Kevin Dailey from New Lenox, and our featured speaker, Bruce Smith and his daughter Jessie from Sheboygan, Wisconsin. The minutes from the June meeting(#941) were approved. The minutes from the July meeting(#942) were corrected to state that Curtis L. Clay was a guest. There was no first reading for Mr. Clay as originally stated. The treasurers report was read and accepted. The club has 2 certificates of deposit at First Chicago due later this year. There was approval to renew both certificates since the funds were not needed and there is ample funds in the money market fund and the regular checking account.

President Mark Wieclaw spoke about the upcoming 1999 ANA Convention to be held in Chicago which the club will host. Our member Kermit Wasmer will serve as General Chairman. He asked that members give some thought to positions they could fill at the convention.

There was a first reading for James M. Rondinelli from Downers Grove who was there with his father, Richard R. Rondinelli.

Under old business, Jeff Rosinia asked about progress on the Youth Forum Project. Mention was made that ILNA has a Youth Program in progress and that perhaps the club can get ideas from ILNA.

Also under old business, the previously tabled motion of not listing members complete names for exhibits was brought up again for discussion. After further discussion, it was decided that complete names will be printed unless requested otherwise by a member.

Under new business, President Mark Wieclaw mentioned the ILNA Show sponsored by Central States. The club will have a table at the ILNA show which will be held at the Ramada Inn 1740 S. Halsted in Harvey, Illinois, from September 5 through September 7.

Cont'd

Also under new business, a committee was formed for the Christmas Banquet. Chaired by Carl Wolf, the other members are Nancy Walsh and Jeff Rosinia.

Carl Wolf then announced upcoming programs for September and October and beyond. The September program is still being developed. The hope is to have a talk on the World Wide Web and the collector, if not in September then in January 1998. Also, the club might have an Internet hook-up at the paper money show and CICF next year. In October our featured speaker will be Mr. Leon Sierra, who will talk on the *Medieval Coins of Armenia*. In November the club will have the regular member auction and the Christmas Banquet will be our December meeting.

Our featured speaker for the evening was Bruce Smith, introduced by Carl Wolf. His topic was ancient spade, knife, and round coins from Northern China made from bronze. Bruce was given a big round of applause at the end of his very interesting talk. His featured speaker medal will be sent to him as soon as possible. Exhibitors for the evening were as follows:

Drew Michyeta-first 1997 U.S. platinum proof set, the book "Money-A History" by Jonathan Williams.

Bob Leonard-Chinese knife money, book on Chinese coins and another book on Chinese coin molds.

Mike Metras-counter stamped cents from the 1997 ANA Summer Seminar, counter stamped New Jersey copper piece, 1796 half cent copy counter stamped, counter stamped Hobo nickel, and a Roman coin commemorating the 1000th anniversary of the founding of Rome which featured a hippopotamus.

Mark Wieclaw-mint errors - Roosevelt dime die adjustment strike, 3 Russian coins (brockage) and an ancient Greek bronze coin.

Bob Weinstein-Austrian coin from the city of Grecz dated 1458 A. D. and a silver and gold set from Bacharach Germany dated 1458 A. D.

Cont'd

Dick DeRobertis-a medal commemorating the 50th anniversary of FIDEM and also cartoons.

President Mark Wieclaw then passed on numerous clippings and articles that our late long time member Frank Zaylik had given to him. All material had to do with the Chicago Coin Club and was presented to the club archivist Phil Carrigan.

The winner of the quiz in the August Chatter was Marty Vinik (again) who won another 1997 Silver Eagle.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.



BIRTHDAYS
AND
YEAR JOINED

Oct 3	Dick DeRobertis	1995
Oct 13	Bernard L. Schwartz	1986
Oct 14	Joel J. Reznick	1981
Oct 14	Warren C. Schultz	
Oct 14	Marcella L. Sheldon	1946
Oct 16	Harry Flower	
Oct 17	Margo Russell	
Oct 19	Phyllis Eisenberg	1968

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 5-7 Central States Numismatic Society Fall Convention

Convention will be hosted by ILNA and will be held at the Ramada Inn-17040 South Halsted Street(I-80 and Rte 1) in Harvey, IL. It will be open to the public from 10am to 6pm, Friday and Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. There will be seminars and exhibits as well as a large dealer bourse and an auction.

Sept 10 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Paul R. Hybert** on
Numismatists on the Internet

Each week more coin dealers, auction houses and private numismatists are added on the Internet. Join us as we go for a ride on the net visiting different sites including our own club's home page, the American Numismatic Assn., the American Numismatic Society, plus some of the current auctions and fixed price lists being offered by coin dealers. If time warrants, we'll also visit the sites of private collectors who have a specialized interest. One site even offers a bibliography and a critical review of numismatic literature. We're fortunate that our conference room is electronically equipped to display an enlarged image of the computer screen on the wall, so there won't be any need to crowd around a small display. Those who attend will leave with a handout of popular Internet addresses and will learn how to quickly retrieve in-depth and unfiltered information to keep abreast on current events.

Oct 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Leon A. Saryan** on
Medieval Coins of Cilician Armenia, 1080-1375 AD

For most of the 13th century, Cilician Armenia was a primary trade center of the Middle East. During this period the Armenians played an important role in the Crusades. Dr. Saryan has studied and collected the coinage of this period for

Cont'd

over twenty years, has traveled to Armenia four times and used historical manuscripts of the era to research his findings. Join him as he shows the copper, silver and gold coins from this medieval culture and explains their historical background and significance in relation to the times.

Nov. 12 CCC Meeting - Program - Auction

This is the evening of our annual auction and there will be no exhibits. We've been promised that a large collection of past club medals will go up for sale and if last year's auction was any indication, the bidding could get pretty exciting. Please bring in your material as early as possible so we can begin to accurately catalog it. Turn your material over to either Carl Wolf or Bill Burd. This is also a great time for you to donate material with the proceeds going to the Club.

End

OUR 944th MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, September 10, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - **Paul Hybert** on *Numismatists on the Internet*

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

AUGUST MEETING

The speaker for the August meeting was **Bruce Smith** of Sheboygen, WI who spoke on the Spade and Knife Money of China.

Mr. Smith received a B.A. from the University of Missouri in St. Louis with a major in Anthropology and a minor in Archeology. His Master's degree is from Harvard, in East Asian Studies. He was on the editorial staff of World Coin News and, for a short time, he published his own journal, The East Asian Journal. He is the founder of the East Asian Journal of Numismatics and is a consultant to Krause publications and others. He lived in China during the 1980's.

The presentation began with an explanation of the location where spade and knife money were issued and then discussed who actually issued the pieces.

All spade and knife money comes from the area of northern China along the Yellow River. The last types of these were made about 220 BCE so most pieces were made prior to that date.

Bruce established that spade and knife money are real coins rather than being 'odd-and-curious' or primitive money. Coins are manufactured, issued by some form of government and are used wherever that government has power and authority. Further, real coins are not consumed. In contrast, most types of odd-and-curious or primitive money is not manufactured, i.e., shells, tea bricks, etc. varies from village to village even within a restricted area and has no governmental sanction. Tea bricks, for example, can be drunk or eaten.

Coins, in essence, are tokens which have an assigned value and supplement barter. Coins usually are round as opposed to other non-coin types, though this wasn't always so. Finally, coins have inscriptions for a varieties of reasons. Spade and knife pieces have inscriptions indicating who issued the piece and/or its denomination. Thus, spade and knife pieces meet the general criteria as coins.

Cont'd

Spade and knife money are too thin for use in barter - they are fragile, and they are not burial pieces; they are found only in hoards in clay pots. They are rarely of gold and silver which was not used much in ancient China except as jewelry or personal cosmetic items. However, bronze once was precious in China (ca 1000 BCE)

In the first and second millennia before the common era, China was not a single country, but was made up of many states (1100 BCE). Each state was essentially a fiefdom (about 1700 existed). During the Chou dynasty, there was one emperor who held almost absolute powers. After 770 BCE, the barbarians from north of China, carried off the emperor and the number of petty states fell to about 200, each gaining some powers at the expense of the emperor. By 300 BCE, only two dozen remained and these had gained considerable power. These states, including Chou, Cheng, Wei and Choa, were constantly at war with each other trying to gain single control of the entire country again. This was the period of the Warring States. At this time, the southern part of Asia was not really Chinese, but was a different people and culture.

In the west (Europe), emperors controlled the manufacture of coins, using them for propaganda and political purposes and to control trade. Chinese money was not made by the emperor because anything associated with merchantile business was considered to be of the lowest class. The Chinese culture was ranked according to the Royalty, the Aristocracy, the Philosophers, the Peasants and, finally, the Merchants. All spade and some knife money have names of cities on them (similar to the Greek cities listed on many Greek coins) as the site of origin. When the Chin dynasty became the dominant government, there was a shift to round coins and, in line with the prevailing philosophy, it was thought the emperor should control everything. The first Chin emperor did standardize the weights of coins and even the length of the axle of carts.

Cont'd

Examples of various spade and knife money coins were shown as part of the presentation. These types included:

- 1.) hollow handle 'Chin' with straight lines
- 2.) sloping shoulder hollow handle with slanted lines
- 3.) pointed feet hollow handle
- 4.) round crotch spades (from about 4000BCE)
- 5.) 'Chin' character spades
- 6.) round foot spades 'Lin'
- 7.) three-hole spades rare
- 8.) Chi knife money
- 9.) straight back - made in only 6 places
- 10.) sharp pointed knife money

The inscriptions on the various pieces was discussed.

The final question discussed was the dating of the spade and knife coins. Some Chinese once held that the pieces came from ancient times, even as long ago as 20,000 BCE. More recent evidence suggests that the coins date from the time of the First Emperor who tried to recreate Chinese history by destroying books and documents made prior to his reign. From the few documents and chronicles that have been found from prior to his reign, it is now suggested that Chi knife money might have been made as early as 900 BCE, based on a document in which Chou congratulated Chin for issuing money (round coins). Thus, round coins and knife money are older than previously thought.

Bruce was accompanied by his daughter, Jessie.

End

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Civil War tokens are divided into these three classifications: store card, military, patriotic.

TRUE or FALSE

2. Confederate notes were issued in denominations ranging from .05 to \$500.00.

TRUE or FALSE

3. The highest denomination stamp used in the encased postage series was 90 cents.

TRUE or FALSE

4. Fractional currency was issued between 1861 & 1865 in six series.

TRUE or FALSE

SHOW AND TELL CORNER

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

AUGUST MEETING

The first presenter was **Drew Michyeta** who exhibited the first U. S. proof platinum coin set - four pieces issued in 1997. These are denominated at \$100, \$50, \$25 and \$10. The first platinum coins to ever be issued were Russian, dated between 1828 and 1840. Not having much gold Russia wanted to make platinum their circulating coinage but they were not well-accepted. Over the years many counterfeit coins were made of platinum and plated gold. Examples are a 20 peseta piece from Spain and a 20 franc piece from France. There is a U.S. \$5 'gold' coin available. In recent years many genuine platinum coins have been issued including the Chinese Panda, the Australian Koala, the Canadian Maple Leaf, some African states and some islands in the Indian Ocean. The second piece Drew exhibited was a book titled 'Money. A History' by Jonathan Williams.

Robert Leonard showed four pieces of late Chinese knife money, a book on forged and genuine old Chinese coins and a volume of the Shanghai Museum Encyclopedia on coin molds to go along with the subject of the Speaker of the evening. Based on the patina and other features, the four coins appeared to be genuine. One of the books discussed genuine and fake coins of China. The second book was actually issued by the Shanghai Museum but is not part of the encyclopedia series. This book illustrated molds used for knife money and other types.

Mike Metras showed 1997-D U. S. cents countermarked by the Gallery mint for the ANA Summer Conference 1997. Similar countermarks were placed on the Gallery mint restrikes of the New Jersey copper cent. The mint also has made countermarked 1797 half cents and a Hobo nickel is scheduled. The second part of his exhibit was a bronze coin of Otacilla Severa, wife of Philip I (the Arab) which has a hippopotamus on the reverse. The coin was issued (248 CE) to celebrate the games played for the 1000th year of the founding of Rome.

Cont'd

Mark Wieclaw showed a series of mint error coins. The first was a U. S. dime of Roosevelt which appears to be a die adjustment strike - a trial piece made to test the press striking pressure. The second piece was a three kopek Russian brockage of the series 1801-1887. The next coins were Alexander I two kopeck pieces which were double struck before ejection from the die. The first piece weighs 14g (normal). Another two kopeck (18.5g) out-of-weight-range coin was used to fill in the total weight of the run after completion of run to bring the total weight up to par. The last piece was a Greek bronze coin overstruck on a Syracuse coin of 278-276 BCE. The overstrike shows Herakles while the original design was of Artemis which was identified from a photo in a book. The under coin is 20-40 years older than the overstrike.

Bob Weinstein brought a one kreuzer of 1458 (silver) from the city of Graz in Austria. The coin is cracked and chipped, and is not listed in most references. Dated coins from the 1450's are extremely rare. The city name is given as GRAZ on most coins but is given as GRACZz on this piece. The 5 of the date is given in its medieval form. Two other coins exhibited were a matched set from the city of Bacharach in Germany. The one groshen piece is dated in Roman numerals (1438) in silver. The second piece was a one gulden piece also of Bacharach, also dated 1438, but in gold. There may be less than ten such pieces known.

The final presenter was **Dick DeRobertis** who showed a FIDEM Medal of 1987 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the FIDEM Congress and Exposition. 1500 medals by 700 artists were displayed at the Congress held at the ANA in Colorado Springs. The medal shows on the obverse a mountain made of humans, while the reverse shows the mountain made of rocks. The artist is Michael Kaufman who has made medals for a number of countries, for the Society of Medalists and for the U. S. Government. Dick closed his exhibit with three humorous numismatic cartoons he had gathered.

End

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

<http://www.ece.iit.edu/~prh/coins/ccc.html>

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-708-636-3601 or 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



October, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

★★

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

★★

Editor's Notes

Our November meeting will feature our annual auction. We already have consigned for auction over fifty items relating to the Chicago Coin Club, Chicago Numismatic Society and the Chicago Round Table. If you are a collector of this type material you do not want to miss this auction. If you wish to include any of your material please let me know soon. Any numismatic item is acceptable. Club related material seems to sell very well. I will attempt to publish a list of items being auctioned and include it in next month's *Chatter*.

On December 10th we will have our Annual Banquet and although all the details have not been decided on as yet it will surely be similar to previous years. There will be a cocktail hour, a fine dinner, a program after dinner and a brief awards ceremony.

Your annual membership fee of \$10.00 will soon be due (January 1st). Although it may be a little early for me to bring this up, I seem to forget about it and want to be sure I mention it this year. You can mail it to the club secretary or bring it to the next meeting.

William A. Burd

MINUTES OF THE 944th MEETING

The 944th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, September 10th at 7pm. There were no guests. The minutes from the August meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

The main speaker for the evening was member Paul Hybert who spoke on Numismatic information on the Internet. During the course of Paul's talk the web sites of the ANA and the Chicago Coin Club were visited. Paul designed the CCC web site. At the conclusion of his talk, Paul was presented with the featured speaker's medal.

Upcoming meetings the rest of the year include speaker Leon Sarin who will talk on medieval coins in October, the club auction in November and the Christmas banquet in December.

Exhibitors for the evening were as follows:

- 1.) Mike Metras: showed the home page for the Elgin Coin Club which he designed
- 2.) Carl Wolf: book titled "A Building is only as Good as its Foundation" outlining the history of Krause Publications. Millaflora African Trade beads. Katanga Cross from Lower Rhodesia used as money.
- 3.) Mark Wieclaw: ancient mint errors and varieties
- 4.) Steve Zitowsky: watch fob of 4 Panamanian coins from 1904, tokens and bill from Aurora Ontario, Canada

President Mark Wieclaw said that Brian Stubbs, the current 2nd Vice President may have to resign due to work commitments.

Cont'd

Under old business, Mike Metras is to man the CSNS table.

For new business, Carl Wolf proposed buying primitive African money for future ClCF projects due to current low prices for that material. The material includes pins available at \$0.85 each and manillas which were anklet and bracelet money used in the slave trade available at \$3.00 each. This proposal was made into motion and was passed.

There was a second reading for James M. Rondinelli who is now a member.

John Connolly was the September quiz winner of a 1997 silver eagle. John had all correct answers from the Chatter quiz.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton, Sec.-Treas.

OUR 945th MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, October 8, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Featured Speaker - Leon A. Saryan on *Medieval Coins of Cilician Armenia, 1080-1375 AD*

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Featured speaker for the September meeting of CCC was **Paul R. Hybert**, computer equipment coordinator of IIT, who spoke on *Numismatics of the Internet*. The presentation began by defining the term "Internet": a group of computer networks communicating with each other in order to disseminate (or obtain) information. The Internet is where one local computer network tries to talk to another local computer network. WWW (World Wide Web) is a method of referencing and viewing information on the Internet. A Homepage is the identifying page (first page) of an organization's information package in the Internet. Each page is identified by a Universal Resource Locator (URL). The type of group hosting a page is indicated by the last term in the URL, shown as .org (an organization), .com (a commercial firm), or .edu (an educational institution, in the U. S. In some web pages, an underlined blue highlighted word indicates a link to another page which can provide similar information.

With these definitions made, Paul turned his attention to the ANA page (<http://www.money.org/>), using this to explain the layout of a typical Homepage. One item (<http://money.org/congress.html>) included in the ANA page was a description of the Continental dollar which could then be downloaded to one's own computer and used in any way one wanted for other purposes. A second item (<http://www.money.org/bolingexhibit.html>) from the ANA page discussed an exhibit of Japanese currency, 1868-1899, which had been an award winning exhibit at the ANA 1995 convention in Anaheim, CA. This page provided much information on the Japanese paper money of the Meiji era. Paul explained that 1 byte is equivalent to one letter but that illustrations, such as were included in the paper money page, contained as much as 66,000 bytes. As a result transferring that information via telephone line is not a fast communicative method and faster modems and other means are being developed to speed transfer of information.

Cont'd

The ANA page continued with a history of the Vermont coinage from 1770 (<http://www.money.org/vermont/vtexhibit.html>). Using an illustration of a 1795 \$10 U. S. gold piece from the ANA page as an example, Paul showed how the modern computer could modify the screen image in order to clean it up, or to magnify or reduce the image, or to isolate part of the image for special detail.

Other pages presented to the CCC audience included the announcement of the ANA Portland 1998 convention which was updated every five minutes to include views of Portland, the local weather and details of the meeting. Much of his discussion of the Internet was to pull different numismatically oriented pages from the Internet and use these to illustrate the types of information available. Some of the other topics shown and discussed included a display of 25,000 Celtic coins from the U. K. (<http://info.ox.ac.uk/~archinfo/ccindex/ccindex.htm>), a group of coins of Syracuse (<http://www.mcs.drexel.edu/~corres/Archimedes/Coins/Arctura.html>), a page (<http://search.hbrf.org/resmenu.htm>) sponsored by the Harry Bass Research Foundation of Texas, discussing the 500,000 coins in the ANS cabinets, and the use of the Internet by dealers who can list their coins in stock and keep a record of what coins they sold over the last designated period of time.

Interestingly, Paul pointed out that the letters ANA on the Internet do not refer to the American Numismatic Association but to the American Nurses Association who claimed them first.

Some of the other presented pages shown manillas and kisse money available from a company in Calgary (<http://www.cadvision.com/calcoins/home.html>), coins of ancient India (<http://www.med.unc.edu/~nupam/welcome.html>), and a record of classification of 10,000 coins found in Normandy of the Coriasolites (<http://www.cadvision.com/hooker-perron/exp0002.htm>) (Celts defeated by Julius Caesar).

Types of scanners needed to scan coin images into files were discussed.

Cont'd

Paul predicted major changes in the Internet system by the time of the next ANA meeting in Chicago. He suggested that dealers would provide extensive lists of coins available and that ANA programs would be broadcast as they were happening. A number of other features of the Internet and WWW system were illustrated directly from the Internet on the computer equipment provided by the First National Bank.

The final portion of the presentation was to review the CCC Homepage. All but two of the articles included in the CCC book, *Perspectives in Numismatics*, are available but without illustrations. One or two of the articles appeared but there was some difficulty in retrieving the Homepage and other information on the Club.

Netscape and Internet Explorer by Microsoft are browser programs which permit one to glance through a variety of pages quickly and then select the ones wanted for downloading. A question period closed the program.

End



IMPORTANT DATES

Oct 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Leon A. Saryan** on
Medieval Coins of Cilician Armenia, 1080-1375 AD

For most of the 13th century, Cilician Armenia was a primary trade center of the Middle East. During this period the Armenians played an important role in the Crusades. Dr. Saryan has studied and collected the coinage of this period for over twenty years, has traveled to Armenia four times and used historical manuscripts of the era to research his findings. Join him as he shows the copper, silver and gold coins from this medieval culture and explains their historical background and significance in relation to the times.

Nov. 12 CCC Meeting - Program - **Auction**

This is the evening of our annual auction and there will be no exhibits. We've been promised that a large collection of past club medals will go up for sale and if last year's auction was any indication, the bidding could get pretty exciting. Please bring in your material or send a list as early as possible so we can begin to accurately catalog it. Turn your material or list over to either Carl Wolf or Bill Burd. This is also a great time for you to donate material with the proceeds going to the Club.

Dec 10 CCC Annual Banquet

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

MATCH THE DESIGNER TO THE COIN

COIN TYPE

1. Walking Liberty Half Dollar
2. Winged Liberty Dime
3. Three Dollar Gold
4. Indian Head Nickel
5. Peace Type Dollar
6. Indian Head Cent

DESIGNER

- A. James B. Longacre
- B. Victor D. Brenner
- C. Anthony De Francisci
- D. Adolph A. Weinman
- E. James Earle Fraser
- F. Charles E. Barber

SHOW AND TELL CORNER

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Only four members presented during the Show and Tell part of the meeting. Mike Metras, in keeping with the topic of the evening, briefly mentioned the Elgin Coin Club Homepage which is not yet on the network. Mike also showed a number of medals the first of which was an Apollo-Soyuz piece with an English inscription on one side and Russian on the other. Next was the 3 ½ in. Kennedy medal available from the U. S. mint. Third was a medal commemorating 1000 years of Christianity in Poland dated 1966. Coining implements made up part of the reverse design. The fourth was a commemorative for some event between Poland and Australia, but the event could not be determined from the medal. The next medal was issued for Anthony Canova dated 1827. Canova was a sculpture. Another piece was to celebrate Italian-Russian cooperation dated 1988. Next was a medal with the coat-of-arms of Rhodesia dated 1972 celebrating the 25th anniversary of the first train in Rhodesia. Another piece was an Albania bullion coin shown with no discussion. One more piece was a medal issued by Mike's company for a trade show two years ago. The final piece was a one dollar medal issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the United States.

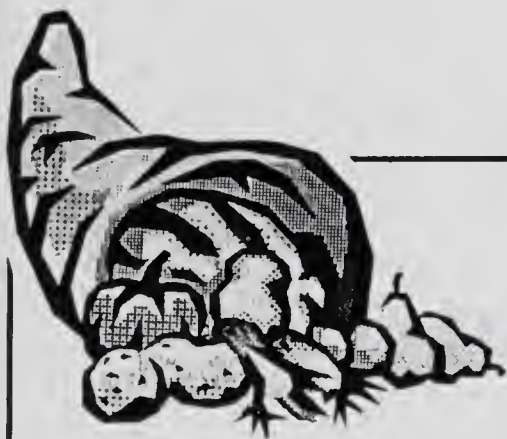
Carl Wolf discussed a book by and about Krause Publications titled 'A Building is Only As Good As It's Foundation'. He also showed examples of strings of African Trade Bead money and a Katanga Cross from his collection of primitive money.

Mark Wieclaw continued with his examples of classical coinage from his collection with two imitation coins, one, a drachm, of Phraates IV of Parthia and the second, an AE, of Theodosios of Rome. This coin shows the hand of God over the bust. This is not typical of the coins of Theodosios. A genuine antonianus of Probus with a military bust and a decorated shield. Many varieties exist for coins of Probus. The final piece is a double-struck obverse decanumion of Phocas (602-610 CE).

Cont'd

Steve Zitowsky showed a watch fob created from four Panamanian coins dated 1904. These included the 2 ½ c 'pill', the 5 centavos, the 10 centavos and the 20 centavos. Only the 50 centavos piece was not included. The obverse of the coins show the bust of Balboa who discovered the Pacific Ocean. The reverse shows the coat-of-arms of Panama. 1904 was the first date of Republic of Panama coins, Panama previously having been under Columbian control. Steve also showed two tokens and a bill from Aurora, Ontario. One was a bronze medallion issued for the centennial of Aurora dated 1863-1963. Part of the obverse design includes flames around the name of the city and a rising sun which honor the Grecian goddess of the dawn, Aurora. The reverse shows a locomotive for the first locomotive in upper Canada. The distance traveled was 25 miles because that was all the steel available for the tracks. 5000 bronze and 200 silver pieces were made. The bill was a 'lucky buck' made of calf leather. The bill was worth \$1 and was to be accepted by any merchant in Aurora during the week of the centennial celebration.

End



**BIRTHDAYS
AND
YEAR JOINED**

Nov 5	Scott E. Douglas	1996
Nov 5	Phyllis Johnson	1987
Nov 5	John Kasper	1995
Nov 5	Michael Steffens	1995
Nov 8	Brian A. Heil	1981
Nov 9	Tom Ryan	1960
Nov 11	J. Vincent Swift	1991
Nov 19	Richard Peterson	1962
Nov 24	Jefferey F. Bernberg	1975
Nov 27	Robert Feiler	1994

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

<http://www.ece.iit.edu/~prh/coins/ccs.html>

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



November, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

**** WE LEARN BY TEACHING ****

Editor's Notes

This month will feature our Annual Auction. There are over 50 items to be auctioned off. Most are club related material and should be of interest to a majority of our members. One highlight in the auction is item 49. This is an original plaster cast of the club's 1969 Golden Anniversary medal titled "I Will". The medal was designed by Trygve A. Rovelstad of Elgin, Illinois. Several months ago Rovelstad's widow sold the plaster cast to the Club. The Club in turn is putting it up for auction. It should bring spirited bidding.

December is our Annual Banquet and as usual should prove to be a great success. All the details are elsewhere in this Chatter.

Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature dealer, is holding a mail bid auction sale on November 22nd. It includes the library of Theophile E. Leon of Chicago. He was a member of the Chicago Numismatic Society and charter member of Chicago Coin Club. The auction includes some club related material which may be of interest to many of our members. You can contact Davis and request a catalog at 1-978-468-2933.

Your annual dues (\$10.00 regular membership) is payable by January 1st 1998. Make check out to Chicago Coin Club and mail to our Secretary.

William A. Burd

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 12 CCC Meeting - Program - **Auction**

This is the evening of our annual auction and there will be no exhibits. We've been promised that a large collection of past club medals will go up for sale and if last year's auction was any indication, the bidding could get pretty exciting. Please bring in your material or send a list as early as possible so we can begin to accurately catalog it. Turn your material or list over to either Carl Wolf or Bill Burd. This is also a great time for you to donate material with the proceeds going to the Club.

Dec 10 CCC Annual Banquet - held at the Hickory Pit Restaurant, 2801 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL - Reservations are required
Featured Speaker - **Joel Reznick**, *Figurals*

Production of figurals began in the late 19th century as an advertising medium where actual manufactured products were produced in miniature form. Joel Reznick has collected these unique and charming items for 15 years and has amassed a collection of 125 pieces of which he'll show a part through a series of slides. Made from base metals, these die struck or cast pieces were masculine in nature and were commonly worn on a gentleman's watch chain or attached to a key ring. Some were serial numbered and were a limited edition or used in a registered program where the customer would receive the figural in exchange for his name and address. Join us at our annual banquet and learn about this little known subgroup of numismatics.

Jan 14 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Mark Wieclaw**, *Coin Photography with a 35mm Camera*

Good photographs of coins cannot be achieved through the simple "point-and-shoot" method. Only by employing special techniques, plus having the right lens, the correct film and proper lighting can you get good results. Mark Wieclaw has been taking coin photographs for ten years and delivered a program on this subject five years ago. Since then he has refined his techniques and developed new processes, especially in photographing coins in plastic housing. Those who attend will leave with a better appreciation of the narrow requirements needed and will gain the knowledge of how they can do it themselves. A handout will be available.

MINUTES OF THE 945th MEETING

The 945th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, October 8th. Our guest and featured speaker was Leon Saryan, who spoke later on the medieval coins of Cilician Armenia. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. The treasure's report was read and approved.

Next month in November will be the annual club auction. To date, 50 lots have been offered for auction. Contact Bill Burd for additional lots to be offered. Please try to bring small bills and change for purchasing lots.

In January, Mark Wieclaw will speak on *Photography and Numismatics*. Our February meeting at the Chicago Paper Money Expo will feature Dr. Douglas Ball from R. M. Smythe speaking on *Colonial and Continental Currency*.

Exhibitors for the evening were as follows:

Mike Metras- hard times tokens

Jeff Rosinia- proof set from First Chicago

Mark Wieclaw- ancient coins from Carthage, new U. S. platinum \$100 97 unc. 1 oz. and lapel pin and snow dome with eagle

Bob Leonard- medals from the 10th International Numismatic Congress miscellaneous medals, books, and programs from the 10th International Numismatic Congress

Bob Feiler- 1965 popped out cent, 1912 popped out Barber dime, 1903 popped out British cent, obsolete notes: \$1 Bay State Mining Co., \$1 Western Exchange Fire and Insurance, \$2 Bank of Florence, Neb., \$5 Bank of Florence, Neb.

Drew Michyeta- silver crown from Sri Lanka

Cont'd

John Connelly- Isabella quarter, Columbian half-dollar, 1942 Walker half, Mercury dime and Canadian coin

Several members answered the Chatter quiz successfully this month and a drawing was held to determine the final winner. Jim Flannery won a 1975 ILNA 1oz. convention coin.

A drawing was conducted to give away a door prize of David Aker's upcoming auction catalog of the *Pittman Collection - Part 1* donated by Bill Burd and won by our guest speaker Leon Saryan.

Marty Vinik announced that Chet Poderski was on his honeymoon. Congratulations Chet!

Carl Wolf announced that our annual Christmas banquet will be held again at the Hickory Pit, 2801 S. Halsted. The menu will be ribs or chicken and the price is \$23 per person. Please give your checks for the banquet to the club secretary-treasurer Richard Hamilton.

Bob Feiler will work on the Chicago Paper Money Expo project.

Under old business, life membership for the club was brought up and later decided to be discussed at the January 1998 meeting. President Mark Wieclaw reported that Bill Burd won a literary award from the Numismatic Literary Guild at the ANA Convention in New York in August for best article in a regional club publication. His article was on "Early Auctions by the Chicago Coin Club".

There was no new business.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton
Secretary Treasurer

SPEAKER'S WOR[L]D

By Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

OCTOBER MEETING

Dr. Leon A. Saryan spoke on the *Medieval Coins of Cilician Armenia, 1080-1375 CE*. Beginning in ancient times, the right to issue money has been one characteristic of a sovereign state. Small disks of copper, silver and gold have been the preferred medium of commerce, replacing simple barter. These are portable, have an intrinsic value, are guaranteed as to size and weight by the issuing authority. In addition, coins offer the state an opportunity to advertise its rule or special events of local importance. In earlier times, however, not every king chose to issue coins. Thus, the principal purpose of coinage was to provide a means for exchange, for collection of taxes, for promoting economic development and for paying its own bills to its officials and to foreign governments. Since the nominal value of the coin typically was greater than the intrinsic worth of its metal, the state would also derive a profit from mint operations. In ancient and medieval Armenia, coins were struck under the direct authority of the king. In general, dies were changed to reflect succession of a new ruler to the throne.

Armenia is located in the Near East, in the mountainous districts of the southern Caucasus and eastern Asia Minor. Written records mention the Armenians as early as the 6th century BCE, but other evidence suggests Armenia origins go back at least 5000 years. The language is part of the Indo-European family and is written in a unique and distinctive alphabet invented 1600 years ago by the monk Mesrob. Armenia may be the first state to have adopted Christianity as a state religion in the year 301 CE, several years before Rome. In 1915, over 1.5 million Armenians, about half the total population, were massacred at the orders of the Turkish government. Despite this tragic history, part of historical Armenia survives today as the Republic of Armenia, one of the newly independent states formed after the break up of the Soviet Union, with Yerevan as its capital. Cilicia, the subject of today's presentation, is not part of Armenia proper, but rather was a rugged province situated along the Mediterranean coast opposite Cyprus. Eastern Cilicia was occupied by the Armenian king Tigranes the Great about 75 BCE, but it was not until about 1020 CE that Armenians reached Cilicia in large numbers. Between 1080 and 1375 CE, Cilicia became a new Armenian homeland with its art, literature, architecture, commerce, religion and policy preserved. Cilicia's Armenian community was destroyed between 1909 and 1915.

Cont'd

Tens of thousands of mostly silver coins of Cilician Armenia survive, inscribed in Armenian. There are more than 100 types with a large number of varieties. These carry the names and iconography of almost every baron and king who ruled between 1080 and 1375 CE. These pieces record evidence of the country's culture and history, and is in sharp contrast to the almost non-existent record of the coinage of medieval Armenia. Collections of Armenian coins can be formed without great difficulty or expense. As with other ancient and medieval countries, the coins reveal that medieval Armenians were concerned not only with pursuits but that they were intensely religious. The brief inscriptions often declare the king's reliance upon the 'strength' or 'grace' of God.

During the Cilician Barony, between 1080 and 1198, only copper coins are known. These are extremely rare, struck in only small quantities. With elevation of the Barony to a kingdom, large numbers of silver coins were struck, along with coins of copper and gold. Active coinage of silver and copper continued until the fall of the kingdom in 1375.

Silver trams became legal tender for domestic and international trade, while copper small change was used for local transactions. Gold was restricted to presentation pieces by the king. Royal mints were located in the capital, Sis, as well as in the port cities of Tarsus and Ayas. The typical royal silver tram has a diameter similar to the U. S. nickel and the thickness of the U. S. dime. Each side carries a central design and an inscription separated from the design by a circle of closely spaced dots. A second circle of dots appears at the outer border of the coin. This design was established as early as 1100 CE. Silver coins may have passed by count or by weight with the latter being more common. Many pieces are notched at the edges representing attempts at clipping the coin. The outer dotted border was intended to discourage this practice. Hoards of Cilician silver coins are unearthed regularly and are available at reasonable prices.

The copper coins of the Cilician Armenian Barony are extremely rare and are seldom found in well-preserved condition. Crosses figure on both sides of the coins, as their designs are related to contemporary Byzantine and crusader types, reflecting the influence of these on the medieval Armenian society.

Cont'd

Examples of coins of Prince Toros I (1100-1123), Prince Roupen II (1175-1187) and Prince Toros II (1144-1168) were shown. The barony was converted into a kingdom under Levon I whose reign began as Prince Levon II in 1187. Levon assisted Richard the Lionhearted in the conquest of Cyprus and had been promised a crown by Frederick Barbarossa. The latter's death delayed the plan, but Levon eventually received the crown from Henry VI of Germany and a second crown from the Byzantine Emperor Alexius III. Levon initiated an extensive series of copper, silver and gold coins. He also began a series of double-trams, which contain 5.5 g of fine silver. This was nearly twice the weight of the prevailing Islamic dirham. At this time, the crusaders were trading with debased lightweight deniers. The half and quarter denominations also were issued. The design shows the robed king seated on a throne holding royal insignia, and a single crowned lion holding a processional cross. The inscriptions read LEVON TAKAVOR AMENAYN HAYOTs (Levon King off all the Armenians), and GAROGHOUTIAPN ASDOUDzO (By the Strength of God). With receipt of the second crown, a new issue showing two rampant lions facing the king appeared, together with a series of regular trams. The regular tram was issued in huge quantities, in excess of ten million coins, and appears to have been an original Armenian contribution to numismatic art. Each tram contains about 2.9 g fine silver. Numerous die varieties exist. Regular trams were first struck about 1200 and continued after the death of Levon in 1219. Silver half trams of the same design were struck as were gold pieces of both the double tram and the regular tram design. Copper tanks bearing a lion-head portrait of the king, weighing about 7 g, constituted small change during the period.

Following Levon's death, there was an interregnum of about seven years during which Levon's daughter, Zabel, married Hetoum of the house of Lambron. This joining of the rival Roupenian and Hetoumian families exerted a stabilizing influence on the kingdom. During the 45 year reign of Hetoum I, a series of unique and artistic silver bilingual trams appeared. The king is shown horseback with the inscription HETOUM TAKAVOR HAYOTs (Hetoum King of the Armenians) while the reverse mentions the name and title of one of two Seljuk sultans who threatened the northern border of the country. The series was produced in small quantity and may be a commemorative issue rather than a tribute issue.

Cont'd

Hetoum also struck regular silver trams, to the same standards as those of Levon, to serve commercial purposes. Hetoum is shown standing with Zabel at his side, indicating his rank as king consort, with a lion and long cross of the reverse. The inscription is similar to those on the coins of Levon, but differs in iconography. Two denominations of copper coins were struck, the tank and the smaller kardez. Rare gold coins were also minted.

Hetoum was succeeded by Levon II who struck coins in copper, silver and, perhaps, gold. Levon is shown on horseback with crowned lion on the reverse. The inscription includes the minting city name SHINEAL I KAGhAKN AYAS (made in the city of Ayas). The new trams were of slightly reduced weight and fineness of silver, reflecting the country's decline in political and economic fortunes. The copper kardezes of Levon II show a new combination of cross and lion design. The inscription names Sis as the minting city.

After Levon II, the fortunes of Cilician Armenia declined further. The silver coins of the fourteenth century, beginning with Levon III, were reduced even further, and these coins became known as takvorins (belonging to the king). While the general quality of the coinage declined, an occasional issue still maintained a degree of attractiveness, including a copper pogh attributed to Levon IV, minted between 1320 and 1342.

Much work remains to be done with respect to understanding the coinage of Cilician Armenia. Such work is being conducted by Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian in the United States. Y. T. Nercessian has established the Armenian Numismatic Society in California which publishes a quarterly journal. A large body of literature exists in English to aid anyone entering this field of numismatics.

End

Chicago Coin Club's Annual Banquet

The 1997 Annual Banquet of the Chicago Coin Club will be held Wednesday, December 10, 1997 at the **Hickory Pit Restaurant and Lounge, 2801 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois**. Cocktails begin at 5pm and dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

The menu includes: Minestrone soup, tossed green salad, B.B.Q. ribs (house specialty), fried chicken, mostaccoli in meat sauce, whipped potatoes, green beans, rolls & butter and for dessert, rainbow sherbet. Drinks can be purchased from the bar.

The cost will be \$23 (checks are made payable to the Chicago Coin Club) and reservations are required. The Hickory Pit provides ample parking and the club will be reimbursing any cab rides from the Loop to the restaurant. Get a receipt from your cab driver and present it to the Club Secretary/Treasurer for reimbursement. Arrangements will be made to get everyone back to the train station(s) or their home.

Call Carl Wolf at 773-878-8979 with your reservations and questions. Mail your checks to the Club address at P. O. Box 2301, Chicago, Illinois 60690.

OUR 946th MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, November 12, 1997

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: First National Bank Building
18th Floor
on Dearborn
Between Madison and Monroe

Enter building at south entrance of the Dearborn side. Sign in at security desk and take elevator to the 18th floor.

Annual Chicago Coin Club Auction



BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

Dec 6	Albert F. Ivan	
Dec 6	Allen H. Meyer	1960
Dec 7	Brian C. Stubbs	1980
Dec 9	Howard Eisenberg	1963
Dec 10	Mike Gasvoda	1995
Dec 15	Akio Lis	1997
Dec 17	Allen E. Schecter	1984
Dec 18	Paul Kenneth Johnson	1994
Dec 19	Bill Grundy	1980
Dec 29	Nick Weiss	1996
Dec 31	Philip J. Carrigan	1989

NUMISMATIC QUIZ

Answer each of the following questions below on a piece of paper and return it at the next meeting. The monthly winner will be determined by a drawing and will receive a one ounce Silver Eagle. A cumulative total will be kept for each participating member. The winner will be announced at the December banquet.

What controversy surrounded these coins when they were first issued?

1. Lincoln Cent
2. Standing Liberty Quarter
3. \$2 ½ and \$5 Indian Head Gold
4. Roosevelt Dime
5. Susan B. Anthony Dollar

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

<http://www.ece.iit.edu/~prh/coins/ccc.html>

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

1997 ANNUAL CHICAGO COIN CLUB AUCTION

November 12, 1997

Chicago Numismatic Society:

1. 1907 - Octagonal Medal, 1 3/8" brass, struck to commemorate the Society's new meeting rooms at the Masonic Temple.
2. 1908 - 50th Meeting Medal, 1 3/8" bronze.
3. 1909 - U.S.S. Nashville Medal, bronze 1 1/4" x 3"

Chicago Numismatic Roundtable

4. 15th Anniversary (1949) Wood. 4" x 4". Good for 25 cents until Dec 31, 1949. Autographed by CNR members.
5. as number 4 above but 3 1/2" by 2" and good for 15 cents. Serial number 102.

Central States Numismatic Society:

6. 1963 - 21st Annual convention CSNS Sheraton Chicago Hotel. Wallet with six slots for holding coins.
7. 1965 - note pad given away by Krause at the CSNS convention in Chicago. Unused.
8. 1965 - Set of 3 CSNS medals with bust of Abraham Lincoln & commemorating the centennial of the end of the Civil War. 31x42mm aluminum, 41x41 copper & 41x41mm sterling silver.
9. 1965 - Six bus tokens in different colors used during the CSNS convention at Chicago for various tours.
10. Exhibit award used by CSNS. One awarded at Chicago in 1965, one at Chicago in 1969. One not issued. 3 pieces total.

Chicago Coin Club:

11. 1944 - 25th Anniversary Medal with Abraham Lincoln. 1 1/2" sterling silver one ounce, in Plexiglas holder.
12. 1952 - 400th Meeting counter stamped 1944 Mexican Peso, 200 struck, .6 ounce .720 silver.
13. 1960 - 500th Meeting barrel medals, one bronze and one 3.5 ounce silver. 72 x 52mm. Silver medal has file mark on top where someone tested it for silver content.
14. 1969 - Set of two 50th Anniversary Medals. 2 1/4" dia. 3.5 ounce .999 silver, 113 struck, serial number 635, and bronze, 182 struck.
15. 1981 - 750th meeting counter stamped Kennedy half dollar. 100 struck.
16. 1981 - 750th meeting as above but counter stamped on a 1919 Walking Liberty half dollar.
17. 1985 - 800th Meeting Medal 2" nickel silver.
18. 1994 - 900th meeting elongated Kennedy half dollar.
19. 1962 - Fall Festival Medal 33mm. .5 ounces sterling silver. Only 10 struck in silver.
20. 1961 Fall Festival elongated cent.
21. 1939 - Lincoln Group of Chicago 1931 - 1939. 12mm aluminum medal. Bust of Abraham Lincoln. Obv was struck from die used in 1864 to strike political tokens for Lincoln's second presidential campaign.
22. Chicago Coin Club "key tag" Number 2.
23. Five miscellaneous items including Oak Park Coin Club Exhibit medal 1963, Oak Park Coin Club medal 1965, elongated nickel, Lincoln medal and CSNS emblem.

American Numismatic Association:

24. 1956 - Souvenir 1956 Chicago ANA Wooden Nickel and original envelope given out by the Chicago Coin Club.
25. 1966 - ANA 75th Anniversary Convention pin issued by Chicago Coin Club.
26. Group of 12 Convention badges issued to J. Thomas Nolan dated from 1956 to 1972. Including ANA, CSNS and PNG.
27. Group of 6 wooden nickels issued on the occasion of the 1991 ANA Convention in Chicago

Additional Items:

28. Large group of literature relating to numismatic material of Europe and Asia. Includes fixed price lists, Trends magazines, etc. Opening Bid \$3.00.
29. Large group of literature relating to numismatic material of U. S. and world. Includes fixed price lists, magazines, etc. Opening Bid \$4.00
30. 1966 - ANA Diamond Jubilee Convention badge with diamond (ex Lou Goldstein, not marked).
31. Chicago Coin Club 30th Anniversary wooden dollar (ex Lou Goldstein).
32. 1970 - Wooden Nickel. "Nolan's Cut Out Coin Jewelry 4250 Marine Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60613" "Redeemable for 5 Cents On Your Next Purchase".
33. Book - Walter Thomson, *How United States Coins are Made*. Hewitt
34. Three Numismatic Scrapbook Magazines - July 1950, December 1952 and September 1969.
35. Whitman Numismatic Journal - September 1968.
36. Three numismatic literature auction catalogs by George Frederick Kolbe. 1989 -90. New.
37. Book - *The Story of American Bank Note Company* (1959). Traces the history of ABNC from 1795. Includes sixteen engraved plates over 135 different vignettes. 92pp. 8 1/2 x 11. Long out of print. Opening bid \$150.00.
38. 1833 Half Cent. XF
39. 1857 Half Cent. VG
40. 1869-S Half Dime. XF
41. 1883 Nickel "No Cent" variety. Fine
42. 1949-S Nickel
43. 1917-D Type I Standing Liberty Quarter. Fine
44. 1952 - CCC 400th Meeting counter stamped 1944 Mexican Peso, 200 struck .6 ounce .720 silver.
45. Another as above. This one in a hard plastic holder.
46. 1966 American Numismatic Association 75th Anniv. Convention pin issued by Chicago Coin Club.
47. Another as above.
48. 1966 ANA Diamond Jubilee Convention badge with diamond.
49. 1968 - 2 Items. Plaster cast of obverse and plaster cast of reverse of Chicago Coin Club 50th Anniversary Medal. Designed by Trygve A. Rovelstad of Elgin, Illinois. The medal's obverse incorporates the head of Rovelstad's proposed "I Will" statue. It depicts a modernized version of Arethusa (in Greek mythology, a nymph who was changed into a fountain so that she might escape her pursuer Alpheus). The reverse depicts the Winter Hexagon, a constellation of six stars. Each plaster cast is 10 1/8 inch diameter and 1 3/8 inch thick.

Chicago Coin Club

CHATTER



December, 1997



DOCENDO DISCIMUS

WE LEARN BY TEACHING

CHATTER

**** WE LEARN BY TEACHING ****

Editor's Notes

Thanksgiving weekend I attended the Michigan State show in Dearborn, Michigan. I shared a table with another dealer in the "Annex" which housed the overflow of dealers, tables for auction viewing and the courtesy tables including ANACS, Krause and Central States Numismatic Society. Also the exhibits were in the same room and as I sat at my table I was facing them and got a fairly good idea of the attention they drew. Sadly I didn't see 100 people view the exhibits. I don't know how many attended the show but it had to be over 1500 and add this to the number of dealers and their assistants the total was probably over 2000. Sunday morning I finally viewed the exhibits and was glad I did. They were interesting and educational.

The exhibitors spend a lot of time and effort to present a numismatic story and although we have many priorities when we attend a show with very little time to accomplish all we want, exhibit viewing should be one of those priorities.

William A. Burd

Leonard W. Stark

1921-1997

Leonard W. Stark, 76, passed away Saturday, November 15th at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Stark was member 658 of the Chicago Coin Club. He started collecting when he was nine years old and for a number of years, specialized in Confederate and obsolete currency. Mr. Stark was a coin dealer and the owner of the Central Coin Mart, which operated for twenty years in downtown Chicago. He actively promoted the hobby and worked on behalf of the American Bicentennial Society that awarded scholarships for student designs that were minted as official bicentennial medals. In 1965-66 he joined other eminent numismatists from across the country and served as a lecturer at Roosevelt University's "Numismatics, The Story of Civilization". He was also the numismatics editor of the *Chicago Tribune*. In 1963 President John F. Kennedy appointed Mr. Stark to the U. S. Assay Commission.

At the 1961 Chicago Coin Club Fall Festival. Mr. Stark issued four different elongated cents commemorating the show. The machine was at his bourse table and the cents were produced and sold on request. Later, he donated the elongated die to the Club and it remains at the Club archives to this day.

In addition to numismatics, Mr. Stark loved baseball. In the 1930's, he was a visiting team batboy for the Chicago White Sox and met Yankee great Lou Gehrig and Hall-of-Famer Bob Feller. Mr. Stark treasured a signed photograph from Feller in which the pitching great called him the "best batboy in the American League". Later, he went on to serve as a baseball scout for the St. Louis Browns.

Mr. Stark's date of birth was August 9, 1921 and he was a graduate of Hyde Park High School. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II as a chief petty officer and was seriously injured when his boat was burned. He was active with the American Veterans Committee.

His wife, Mildred and two daughters, Susan Christianson and Barbara Frank survive Mr. Stark. Interment was at the Free Sons Cemetery, Forest Park, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted by Carl F. Wolf

MINUTES OF THE 946th MEETING

The 946th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order by President Mark Wieclaw on Wednesday, November 12th. Douglas Rosenberg was our only guest. Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted. The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Committees - Carl Wolf reported that all details were set for the Christmas Banquet to be held at the Hickory Pit, 2801 S. Halsted, Chicago on Wednesday, December 10th. The speaker will be Joel Reznick talking on figurals. In January, the featured speaker will be our own Mark Wieclaw with photography in numismatics as the subject. Our February meeting will be held on location at the Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) Ramada O'Hare, 6600 N. Mannheim, Rosemont, IL. The date will be February 21st, Saturday, with the meeting scheduled for 1pm. Featured speaker will be Dr. Douglas Ball from R.M. Smythe speaking on *Colonial and Continental Currency*. The March meeting will be held in conjunction with Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at a new location, the Merchandise Mart Expo Center, 350 N. Orleans, Chicago, IL. The date will be March 14th with the meeting scheduled for 1pm. The speaker will be Dr. Jane Guyer, Director of African Studies at Northwestern University.

Concerning the CPMX souvenir sheet, Bob Feiler was not sure that Mr. and Mrs. Schingoethe would be able to help this year. Mark Wieclaw will contact Krause Publications to see if they can assist us.

The featured speaker's medal for the September 1996 meeting was presented belatedly to Saul Needleman.

Old business - A committee was formed to look into the possibility of offering life membership for the Chicago Coin Club. Members of the committee are Mark Wieclaw, Bill Burd and Drew Michyeta.

Rules for the submission of papers can be obtained from Saul Needleman.

Cont'd

Concerning the youth program, Jeff Rosinia plans to give away 60 U. S. Mint Starter Sets during Christmas to Boy Scout Troop 271.

New business - Mark spoke to Kermit Wasmer, 1999 ANA General Chairman. All committee chairmen are to be named by February 1998. Members were encouraged to build exhibits for the 1999 ANA Convention.

The new grading guide for PCGS can be obtained from Mark Wieclaw.

John Connally was the winner again of the November quiz. Congratulations John.

After the business part of the meeting ended, Chet Poderski auctioned off 63 lots. Prices Realized can be found in another section in the *Chatter*. Congratulations Chet on another fine auction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hamilton
Secretary Treasurer

OUR 947th MEETING

DATE:	Wednesday, December 10, 1997
TIME:	5:00 PM - Cocktails 6:30 PM - Dinner
PLACE:	Hickory Pit Restaurant 2801 S. Halsted Street Chicago, IL 60608
PROGRAM:	Presentation of Awards Featured Speaker - Joel Reznick on <i>Figurals</i>

CHICAGO COIN CLUB ANNUAL AUCTION
NOVEMBER 12, 1997

PRICES REALIZED

Lot	Price	Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1	14.00	22	4.00	43	4.00
2	21.00	23	8.00	44	7.00
3	102.00	24	7.00	45	9.00
4	15.00	25	1.00	46	1.50
5	7.00	26	14.00	47	1.50
6	4.00	27	2.00	48	4.00
7	3.00	28	8.00	49	280.00
8	13.00	29	7.00	50	10.00
9	2.00	30	4.00	51	6.00
10	5.00	31	4.00	52	8.00
11	22.00	32	2.00	53	21.00
12	5.00	33	3.00	54	2.00
13	14.00	34	1 each	55	15.00
14	35.00	35	1.00	56	No bid
15	8.00	36	1.00	57	No bid
16	15.00	37	No bid	58	No bid
17	7.00	38	19.00	59	No bid
18	7.00	39	7.00	60	10.00
19	22.00	40	12.00	61	No bid
20	7.00	41	3.00	62	0.75
21	21.00	42	No bid	63	3.50

Chicago Coin Club's Annual Banquet

The 1997 Annual Banquet of the Chicago Coin Club will be held Wednesday, December 10, 1997 at the **Hickory Pit Restaurant and Lounge, 2801 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois**. Cocktails begin at 5pm and dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

The menu includes: Minestrone soup, tossed green salad, B.B.Q. ribs (house specialty), fried chicken, mostaccoli in meat sauce, whipped potatoes, green beans, rolls & butter and for dessert, rainbow sherbet. Drinks can be purchased from the bar.

The cost will be \$23 (checks are made payable to the Chicago Coin Club) and reservations are required. The Hickory Pit provides ample parking and the club will be reimbursing any cab rides from the Loop to the restaurant. Get a receipt from your cab driver and present it to the Club Secretary/Treasurer for reimbursement. Arrangements will be made to get everyone back to the train station(s) or their home.

Call Carl Wolf at 773-878-8979 with your reservations and questions. Mail your checks to the Club address at P. O. Box 2301, Chicago, Illinois 60690.



1998

BIRTHDAYS AND YEAR JOINED

Jan 16	Michael Metras	
Jan 22	Venson Brown	1997
Jan 26	Jennie Sochon	1982

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 10 CCC Annual Banquet - held at the Hickory Pit Restaurant,
2801 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL - Reservations are required
Featured Speaker - **Joel Reznick**, *Figurals*

Production of figurals began in the late 19th century as an advertising medium where actual manufactured products were produced in miniature form. Joel Reznick has collected these unique and charming items for 15 years and has amassed a collection of 125 pieces of which he'll show a part through a series of slides. Made from base metals, these die struck or cast pieces were masculine in nature and were commonly worn on a gentleman's watch chain or attached to a key ring. Some were serial numbered and were a limited edition or used in a registered program where the customer would receive the figural in exchange for his name and address. Join us at our annual banquet and learn about this little known subgroup of numismatics.

Jan 14 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - **Mark Wieclaw**, *Coin Photography with a 35mm Camera*

Good photographs of coins cannot be achieved through the simple "point-and-shoot" method. Only by employing special techniques, plus having the right lens, the correct film and proper lighting can you get good results. Mark Wieclaw has been taking coin photographs for ten years and delivered a program on this subject five years ago. Since then he has refined his techniques and developed new processes, especially in photographing coins in plastic housing. Those who attend will leave with a better appreciation of the narrow requirements needed and will gain the knowledge of how they can do it themselves. A handout will be available.

Feb 21 CCC Meeting - Held in conjunction with the 4th annual
Chicago Paper Money Exposition - Featured Speaker -
**Douglas Ball, Ph.D., U. S. Continental and Colonial
Currency, 1690-1786**

Continental and Colonial currency evolved in a chaotic fashion. Join Douglas Ball as he tells the story of how the international economy of our country developed with only modest cooperation of the thirteen different governments each issuing their own currency. A colony's proximity to unfriendly Indian territory had the largest single impact on a local economy with heavy military spending and resulting inflation. Those who attend this talk will leave with the knowledge of how the economic peculiarities of that time and its resulting impact is still with us today and is reflected in our Constitutional provisions and the NYSE. Douglas Ball is Vice President and Director of Research of R. M. Smythe & Co., Inc., dealers of paper money, stocks and bonds since 1880.

CHATTER MATTER

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

Chicago Coin Club
P.O. Box 2301
Chicago, IL 60690

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

<http://www.ece.iit.edu/~prh/coins/ccc.html>

CONTACTING YOUR EDITOR

TELEPHONE: 1-773-586-7666

FAX: 1-773-586-7754

WRITE: William A. Burd
Chicago Coin Company, Inc.
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

CLUB OFFICERS

Mark Wieclaw - President
Carl Wolf - First Vice President
Brian Stubbs - Second Vice President

Directors: Robert Feiler
Mike Metras
Andrew Michyeta III
Jeff Rosinia

Other positions held are:

Richard Hamilton - Secretary/Treasurer
William A. Burd - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist
